SHIRE COUNCIL

SUSTAINABLY DEVELOPING THE OUTBACK

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held at Diamantina Shire Council's Administration Centre

17 Herbert Street, Bedourie, QLD 4829 on

17 August 2026 at 9:00am

Order of Business

1 OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor Francis Murray declared the Meeting open at 9:00am.

2 ATTENDANCE

Present:

Mayor Francis Murray	Mayor/Chairperson
Deputy Mayor Damien Watson	Deputy Mayor/Deputy Chairperson
Cr Damian Clarke	Councillor **(Teams)**
Cr Robert Dare	Councillor
Cr Kerry Morton	Councillor

Officers in attendance:

Ms Julianne Meier	Chief Executive Officer
Ms Practice Brandenburg	Director Communities
Ms Jade Nacario	Director Corporate Services
Mr Brent Reeman	Director Infrastructure **(Teams)**
Ms Dana Livne	Executive Assistant

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVES OF ABSENCE

3.1 Leave of Absence

Nil

3.2 Apologies

Nil

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor Francis Murray acknowledged the Wangkamahdla People, Traditional Custodians of the land on which the meeting was held and paid respect to their Elders, past and present. He extended that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present at the meeting.

5 CONDOLENCES

The Mayor and Councillors expressed their sincere condolences on the passing of Leonard Bruce Williams - “Wakka”, acknowledging their valued contribution to the community. Council extended its sympathies to the family, friends, and all those affected by their loss.

6 DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Clarke informed the meeting that he has a conflict of interest in the matter - Item 13.3.6 Community Grant Requests - Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo & Gymkhana Club. The nature of the interest is that Cr Clarke is the President of the Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo & Gymkhana Club. Cr Clarke declared he will leave the meeting place and not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter.

7 PRESENTATIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The amended minutes for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 July 2026 have been provided for confirmation under Section 9 of this agenda. The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 July 2026 have been provided for council's information. One of the resolutions intended to adopt a Policy was not worded correctly. Prior to the minutes being confirmed an amendment has been recommended for consideration.

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Amendment of the Unconfirmed Minutes - Council Meeting held 20 July 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To seek Council's approval to amend the unconfirmed minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 July 2026 to accurately record Council's resolution relating to the adoption of the New HR Policies.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/203

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council amend the unconfirmed Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting Held 20 July 2026 in relation to the HR Policies to replace the existing resolution with the following:

That Council:

(i) adopts the Ex-Gratia Payment Policy as presented; and

(ii) adopts the Sexual Harassment Policy as presented.

5/0 CARRIED

9.2 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION CNL/26/204

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Mayor Francis Murray

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 20 July 2026, as amended, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5/0 CARRIED

10 MAYORAL UPDATE

10.1 Mayoral Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/205

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receives the Mayor's Report.

5/0 CARRIED

At 9:49am Stuart Bourne, GBA, entered the room.

11 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

11.1 Outstanding Action Items List

RESOLUTION CNL/26/206

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council receives and notes the Outstanding Action Items List report.

5/0 CARRIED

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

13 OFFICER REPORTS

13.1 Infrastructure Services Directorate

13.1.1 Engineering Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/207

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council receives and notes the Engineering Update report.

5/0 CARRIED

At 10:08am Robert Wiles, Works Manager entered the room.

Action: Stuart Bourne, GBA, to follow up with Cr Dare regarding the cost of the concrete.

13.1.2 Infrastructure Services Report

RESOLUTION CNL/26/208

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council receives and notes the Infrastructure Services Report.

5/0 CARRIED

At 10:49am Jodie Girdler, Facilities and Town Services Manager, and Josh Oehm, Workshop Supervisor, Entered the room.

13.1.3 Works Operational Report July 2026

RESOLUTION CNL/26/209

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council receives and notes the Works Operational Report July 2026 report.

5/0 CARRIED

At 10:58am Rob Wiles, Works Manager, and Stuart Bourne, GBA, left the room.

13.1.4 Facilities Maintenance and Town Services Report

RESOLUTION CNL/26/210

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council receives and notes the Facilities Maintenance and Town Services Report.

5/0 CARRIED

At 11:18am Jodie Girdler, Facilities and Town Services Manager, left the room.

13.1.5 Workshop and Fleet Services Monthly Report - July 2026

RESOLUTION CNL/26/211

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council receives and notes the Workshop and Fleet Services Monthly Report - July 2026 report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.1.6 Birdsville Aerodrome Event Camping

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the May 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting a resolution was passed supporting the reintroduction of "Underwing Camping" for the Birdsville Races. Various options were considered in 2023 however were not progressed. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support in establishing an alternative Airside Camping zone as a trail for the 2026 Birdsville Races.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/212

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council support the implementation of a trial airside camping zone utilising the Special Event Zone process for the 2026 Birdsville Races.

5/0 CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT at 11:55am the meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 12:46pm.

13.2 Corporate Services Directorate

13.2.1 Finance Report - July 2026

RESOLUTION CNL/26/213

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council receives and notes the Finance Report - July 2026 report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.2.2 2025.2026 Shell Financial Statements

RESOLUTION CNL/26/214

Moved: Mayor Francis Murray

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receives and notes the 2025.2026 Shell Financial Statements report.

5/0 CARRIED

Amendment to Council Report '13.2.3 - 2025.2026 Shell Financial Statements': The auditor is Deloitte, not PKF as stated in the report.

At 1:06pm Juanita Warner, Governance Manager, entered the room.

13.2.3 Governance Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/215

Moved: Cr Damian Clarke

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council receives and notes the Governance Update report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.2.4 Q4 - Quarterly Report Operational Plan 2025/2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council must preset a written assessment of its progress towards implementing the annual operational plan. This report provides an update on the progress in delivering Council's 2025–26 Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/216

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council receives and notes the Q4 - Quarterly Report Operational Plan 2025/2026.

5/0 CARRIED

At 1:12pm Juanita Warner, Governance Manager, left the room.

13.3 Communities Services Directorate

13.3.1 Communities Directorate Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/217

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receives and notes the Communities Directorate Update report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.2 Community Coordinator Report

RESOLUTION CNL/26/218

Moved: Mayor Francis Murray

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council receives and notes the Community Coordinator Report.

5/0 CARRIED

Child Care Services
Deputy Mayor Damien Watson reported on discussions at a recent RAPAD Early Childhood Education and Care Alliance Forums, noting that the Diamantina Shire Council child care model has attracted interest and could potentially be adapted for use in larger communities. He commented that the service has been successful, with strong utilisation rates and significant funding support contributing to positive outcomes for the community.

It was noted that media coverage of the playgroup initiative has generated additional interest in the service. Members acknowledged that the program is meeting a community need, filling a gap in local service provision, and delivering positive results for the community. We have done well.

13.3.3 Tourism

RESOLUTION CNL/26/219

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receives and notes the Tourism report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.4 Shire Tourism Signage

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the designs of the Shire's Town Entry Signage and the Birdsville Courthouse Timeline for production and installation.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/220

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council approve the designs and quotes presented for Town Entry signs and Birdsville Courthouse Timeline.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.5 Birdsville Carnival Post Event Report

RESOLUTION CNL/26/221

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receives and notes the Birdsville Carnival Post Event Report .

5/0 CARRIED

At 1:52pm, Councillor Clarke declared a Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 13.3.6, left the meeting room and did not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter.

13.3.6 Community Grant Requests - Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo & Gymkhana Club

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Community Grant request received from Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo and Gymkhana Club and seek Council approval.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/222

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council approves the Community Grant request from Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo & Gymkhana Club for the total amount of $5,580.55 inc. GST, to cover costs of Queensland Ambulance Service Event Fees.

4/0 CARRIED

At 2:00pm, Cr Clarke returned to the meeting following consideration of Item 13.3.6.

At 2.00pm Cr Dare left the room and did not participate in the discussion or vote on item 13.3.7.

13.3.7 Community Grant Requests - Bedourie Amateur Race Club

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Community Grant request received from Bedourie Amateur Race Club and seek Council approval for in kind support and cash grant.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/223

Moved: Mayor Francis Murray

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council approves the Community Grant request for the 2026 Bedourie Races for in Kind support to the value of $32,386.18 to support the event execution and $2,465.82 cash grant for the cost of Queensland Ambulance Services.

Assistance in kind requested	**Amount**
Bedourie Racetrack Complex (6 Days)	$7,200
Community Bus Hire	$731.32
30 x Tables incl delivery and collection	$360
80 x Chairs	$400
Tower Light with generator (1 Day)	$216
Power lead 30m	$20
Portaloos (1 Day – only if attendance goes over 400)	$0
Printing- 200 pages – A3 & A4	$187
Laminating 30 pages – A3 & A4	$154.80
Rubish Removal	$2,797.56
Bathroom supplies - toilet paper	$1,000
Cleaning – provide service and labour for cleaning before and after	$5,632
Grounds Maintenance – slashing, mowing – stable and camp area preparation	$6,600
Track maintenance	$7,087.50
Total	**$32,386.18**

4/0 CARRIED

At 2:07pm Cr Dare returned to the meeting room following consideration of Item 13.3.7.

13.3.8 Community Grant Requests - Approved under CEO Delegation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on in-kind requests received during the month.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/224

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council notes the fee waiver to the value of $675.50 approved under the delegation of the Chief Executive Officer.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.9 RADF Application - Birdsville Races

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval of RADF funding.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/225

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council approve the RADF application for the Crack Up Sisters to the value of $5,000 for community workshops to support the 2026 Birdsville Races Town events.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.10 Birdsville Wet Area Approval

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 173C of the *Liquor Act 1992*, the purpose of this report is to designate locations identified in schedule 1 below as public places where liquor may be consumed during the Birdsville Race week. The period and times during which the designation is to have effect shall be from 10:00am Wednesday 2 September 2026 until 12:00am (Midnight) Monday 7th September 2026.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/226

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council approve the declaration of various streets and locations in Birdsville (included in Schedule 1) to be designated areas under section 173C of the *Liquor Act 1992*, as public places where liquor may be consumed during the Birdsville Race week 2026.

Schedule 1: Designated Public Place Location from To Adelaide Street MacDonald Street

Location	From	To
Adelaide Street	MacDonald Street	Vaughan Street
MacDonald Street	Adelaide Street	Burt Street
Town Oval (Tent City)		
Burt Street	Graham Street	MacDonald Street
Frew Street	Graham Street	Florence Street
Florence Street	Burt Street	Vaughan Street
Graham Street	Burt Street	Vaughan Street
Vaughan Street	Graham Street	Florence Street
Birdsville Airport Carpark		
Eyre Development Road from Vaughan Street to Birdsville Racecourse		
Part of the Birdsville Town Common North and South of the Eyre Development Road, between Pelican Point Access gate and the Birdsville Racecourse		

5/0 CARRIED

At 2:23pm Jo Fiorenza, WHS Coordinator, entered the meeting room.

At 2:27pm Alona Gilhang, HR Manager, entered the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

13.4 Executive Office

13.4.1 CEO Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/227

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council receives and notes the CEO Update report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.4.2 HR Report

RESOLUTION CNL/26/228

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Kerry Morton

That Council receives and notes the HR Report.

5/0 CARRIED

13.4.3 WHS Monthly Update

RESOLUTION CNL/26/229

Moved: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council receives and notes the WHS Monthly Update report.

5/0 CARRIED

Alona Gilhang, HR Manager and Jo Fioernaza, WHS Coordinator, left the meeting at 3:15pm.

13.4.4 Sustainable Communities Deed

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the Sustainable Communities Deed and highlight any obligations in respect of the Deed.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/230

Moved: Mayor Francis Murray

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council receive and note the Sustainable Communities Deed Report.

5/0 CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT at 3:15pm the meeting adjourned for a short break and reconvened at 3:43pm.

At 3:43pm Michael Williams, GBA, joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

13.4.5 Betoota Town Common - Land Management Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Land Management Plan has been prepared for the Betoota Town Common. The Land Management Plan establishes a framework for the assessment, approval, and management of temporary secondary uses for the Town Common that are consistent with the reserve purpose. Adoption of the LMP would enable Council to transparently manage short-term activities at the Town Common.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/231

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

That Council adopt the Betoota Town Common Land Management Plan, including the management framework on various matters for council to address when managing the town common.

5/0 CARRIED

At 3:55pm Michael Williams, GBA, left the meeting.

14 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

15 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

RESOLUTION CNL/26/232

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 275 of the Local Government Act 2012:

15.1 Vacant Land for Sale

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 254J(3) - g 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 negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

5/0 CARRIED

RESOLUTION CNL/26/233

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council resume in open session at 3:58pm.

5/0 CARRIED

15.1 Vacant Land for Sale

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's consideration to withdraw 1 Marrawilla Street, Bedourie from the current land for sale list.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/234

Moved: Cr Robert Dare

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Damien Watson

That Council resolves to cease all action in relation to the sale of 1 Marawilla Street, Bedourie, and removes the property from Council's land for sale list.

5/0 CARRIED

LATE REPORTS

13.1.7 Access to Sand for the Bedourie Racetrack Repairs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to seek Council guidance on proposed actions to carry out repairs of the Bedourie Racetrack.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/235

Moved: Cr Kerry Morton

Seconded: Cr Damian Clarke

1. That Council endorse the proposed actions to obtain sand to carry out repairs to the Bedourie racetrack.

5/0 CARRIED

13.3.11 Community Grant Requests - Betoota Hotel

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Community Grant request received from Betoota Hotel and seek Council approval for in kind support.

RESOLUTION CNL/26/236

Moved: Mayor Francis Murray

Seconded: Cr Robert Dare

That Council

A) Approves the Community Grant request for the Betoota Hotel for in Kind support to the value of $1,773.00 to support the event infrastructure.

Assistance in kind requested	Amount
3 x portable toilets delivered and collected	$1,773.00
Total	**$1,773.00**

5/0 CARRIED

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

17 NEXT MEETING

To be held at Diamantina Shire Council's Administration Centre, 17 Herbert Street, Bedourie, QLD 4829 at 9:00 AM on 21 September 2026.

18 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 4.09pm.