

Longreach Regional Council



Minutes

Ordinary Meeting
Thursday 23 January 2025

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting
held on Thursday 23 January 2025 at the Longreach Council Chambers, 96 Eagle Street,
Longreach**

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**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 23
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Present

Councillors

Mayor
Deputy Mayor

Cr AC Rayner
Cr LJ Nunn
Cr DJ Bignell
Cr AJ Emslie
Cr NA Gay
Cr TM Hatch
Cr AR Watts

Officers

Chief Executive Officer
Chief Financial Officer
Director of Communities
Director of Works
Manager of Governance and Economy
Manager of Human Resources, Safety and Wellness
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer,
Mayor and Councillors

Brett Walsh
David Wilson
Tanya Johnson
Andre Pretorius
Simon Kuttner
Grace Cronin-Jones

Elizabeth Neal

Apologies

Nil

1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:02pm.

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and we pay our respects to their elders past and present."

2 Prayer

Reverend Rob Mann, Reach Church, opened the meeting with a prayer.

3 Condolences

The meeting paid its respects and observed a minutes silence to mark the passing of community members Miriam Bolton, Dorothy Barbeler, Lawrence Monize, Suzanne McClymont, Gary "Mingo" William Perkins, Betty Lewis, Eveline Flowers, Edwina Webb.

4 Leave of Absence

Nil

5 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors

5.1 Declaration of Prescribed Conflicts of Interest on any Item of Business

No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.

5.2 Declaration of a Declarable Conflict of Interest on any Item of Business

Cr Emslie declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item 13.1- Sponsorship - Longreach Ilfracombe Thomson Tigers as he is actively involved in this event, marking the field. Cr Emslie will leave the meeting for this item.

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6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Council - Thursday 12 December 2024

(Res-2025-01-001)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Hatch

That the Minutes of the Council held on Thursday 12 December 2024, be confirmed.

CARRIED 7/0

7 Mayoral Report

7.1 Mayoral Report

The Mayor detailed a selection of meetings and engagements in the time since the last Council meeting, including visits from the Tourism Minister and the Premier of Queensland.

(Res-2025-01-002)

Moved Cr Watts seconded Cr Emslie

That Council receives the Mayoral Report, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

8 Notices of Motion

Nil for this meeting

9 Petitions

Nil for this meeting

10 Deputations

Nil for this meeting

11 Chief Executive Officer's Report

Consideration was given to the Chief Executive Officer's Report

11.1 Councillor Information Correspondence

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

(Res-2025-01-003)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch

That Council receives the Councillor Information Correspondence Report, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.2 Advertising Spending Policy - Biennial Review

Consideration of the Advertising Spending Policy No. 2.18, which has undergone its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-004)

Moved Cr Gay seconded Cr Watts

That Council adopts the Advertising Spending Policy No. 2.18, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

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11.3 Climate Change Policy (General Operations) - Biennial Review

Consideration of the Climate Change Policy (General Operations) No. 2.14, which has undergone its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-005)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Hatch

That Council adopts the Climate Change Policy (General Operations) No. 2.14, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.4 Councillor Confidentiality Policy - Biennial Review

Consideration of the Councillor Confidentiality Policy No. 3.6, which has undergone its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-006)

Moved Cr Watts seconded Cr Gay

That Council adopts the Councillor Confidentiality Policy No. 3.6, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.5 Entertainment and Hospitality Policy - Biennial Review

Consideration of the Entertainment and Hospitality Policy No. 2.19, which has undergone its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-007)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Watts

That Council adopts the Entertainment and Hospitality Policy No. 2.19, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.6 External Communications and Social Media Policy

Consideration of the External Communications and Social Media Policy, a new policy, proposed to replace the Social Media Policy and the Communications and Media Policy.

(Res-2025-01-008)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Gay

That Council:

- 1. Repeals the Social Media Policy No. 2.20;*
- 2. Repeals the Communications and Media Policy No. 2.24; and,*
- 3. Adopts the External Communications and Social Media Policy, as presented.*

CARRIED 7/0

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11.7 Human Rights Policy - Biennial Review

Consideration of the Human Rights Policy No. 2.5, which has undergone its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-009)

Moved Cr Gay seconded Cr Emslie

That Council adopts the Human Rights Policy No. 2.5, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.8 Pest Animal Bounty Policy - Review

Consideration of the adoption of the Pest Animal Bounty Policy 05-03 which is due for its biennial review.

(Res-2025-01-010)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch

That Council adopts the amended Pest Animal Bounty Policy 5.3, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

**11.9 Land and Pest Management Advisory Meeting Recommendations - 26
November 2024**

Response to the recommendations of the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee (LPMAC) meeting held on 26 November 2024.

(Res-2025-01-011)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Gay

That Council provides the following responses to the recommendations of the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee:

- a) Council agrees to increase the Cat Bounty to \$10 as recommended;*
- b) Council will review the Terms of Reference for the Land and Pest Advisory Committee on its expiry date;*
- c) Council will review its methodology for the maintenance and construction of grids and culverts during the budget process.*

CARRIED 7/0

11.10 Plant Advisory Committee - Review

Consideration of the proposed disbandment of the Plant Advisory Committee.

(Res-2025-01-012)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn

That Council:

- 1) Disbands the Plant Advisory Committee, informing members of this decision; and,*
- 2) Adopts the Advisory Committee Policy No 2.31, as presented.*

CARRIED 7/0

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:31am.

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The meeting returned from morning tea and resumed at 10:56am with all previous attendees in attendance.

11.11 Annual Operational Plan 2024-25 - Review for period ending 31 December 2024

Consideration of the 2024-25 Annual Operational Plan review for the period ending 31 December 2024.

(Res-2025-01-013)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn

That Council, pursuant to section 174(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, receives the Chief Executive Officer's evaluation of the implementation of the 2024-25 Annual Operational Plan for the period ended 31 December 2024.

CARRIED 7/0

11.12 Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report - December 2024

This report provides a summary of Council's health and safety performance as at 31 December 2024, highlighting issues, risks and opportunities impacting on employee health and safety in the workplace.

(Res-2025-01-014)

Moved Cr Watts seconded Cr Hatch

That Council receives the Workplace Health and Safety update as at 31 December 2024, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.13 Information Report - Planning and Development Report

This report provides an update on Development Services that has occurred during the month of December 2024.

(Res-2025-01-015)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell

That Council receives the Planning and Development information report, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

11.14 Information Report - Governance

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Governance Directorate.

(Res-2025-01-016)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Nunn

That Council receives the Governance Information Report, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Attendance: Cr Watts left the Meeting at 12:37pm and did not return.

The meeting adjourned for Lunch at 12:37pm.

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The meeting returned from Lunch and resumed at 1:37pm with all previous attendees in attendance, with the exception of Cr Watts.

11.15 Chief Executive Officer's Council Report

This report provides an update on the activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Chief Executive Officer.

(Res-2025-01-017)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Gay

That Council receives the Chief Executive Officer's report, as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

12 Financial Services Report

Consideration was given to the Director of Financial Services Report

12.1 Audit and Risk Committee Report - 10 December 2024

A report on the matters reviewed at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 10 December 2024.

(Res-2025-01-018)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Gay

That Council receives the report of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 10 December 2024.

CARRIED 6/0

12.2 Information Report - Finance

This report provides an update on a range of activities that occurred during the month for the Financial Services Directorate.

(Res-2025-01-019)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie

That Council receives the Finance Information Report, as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

Attendance: Ajith Samarasekera, Manager of Fleet and Workshops, joined the meeting at 1:51 pm.

12.3 Chief Financial Officer's Report

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 31 December 2024.

(Res-2025-01-020)

Moved Cr Gay seconded Cr Emslie

That Council receives the Chief Financial Officer's Report for the period ending 31 December 2024, as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

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13 Communities Report

Consideration was given to the Director of Communities Report

Attendance: Cr Emslie left the Meeting at 2:02 pm.

13.1 Sponsorship - Longreach Ilfracombe Tigers

Consideration for Sponsorship application received for the month of January, in accordance with Council’s Sponsorship Policy No. 11.07.

(Res-2025-01-021)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell

That Council approves the allocation of funds from the 2024/2025 Sponsorship budget as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Event/Project Activity</i>	<i>Event Date</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>Longreach Ilfracombe Tigers</i>	<i>Longreach 9’s Rugby League Carnival</i>	<i>15 February 2025</i>	<i>Financial \$2,530 In-kind \$1,142</i>
		<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$3,672</i>

CARRIED 5/0

Attendance: Cr Emslie returned to the Meeting at 2:04pm.

13.2 Community Donation - Longreach Amateur Swimming Club Incorporated

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in January in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

(Res-2025-01-022)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Nunn

That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>Longreach Amateur Swimming Club</i>	<i>7th Kim Anderson Memorial Swim Meet</i>	<i>Financial \$2,500</i>	<i>Financial \$2,375</i>
		<i>TOTAL \$2,500</i>	<i>TOTAL \$2,375</i>

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CARRIED 6/0

13.3 Childcare - Payment of Fees Policy

Consideration of adoption of the updated *Payment of Fees Policy*

(Res-2025-01-023)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Emslie

That Council adopts the *Payment of Fees Policy No. 12.07* as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

13.4 Information Report - Community Services

This report provides an update on the range of activities that have occurred during the month of December for the Community Services Directorate.

(Res-2025-01-024)

Moved Cr Gay seconded Cr Bignell

That Council receives the *Community Services Information Report*, as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

13.5 Director of Communities Report

This report provides an update on the range of activities that have occurred during the month of December for the Director of Communities.

(Res-2025-01-025)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell

That Council receives the *Director of Communities Report*, as presented

CARRIED 6/0

14 Works Report

14.1 Information Report - Works

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of December 2024 for the Works Directorate.

(Res-2025-01-026)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn

That Council receives the *Works Information Report*, as presented.

CARRIED 6/0

15 Late Items

Nil for this meeting

16 Closed Matters

Nil for this meeting

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17 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 3:17pm.

Minutes Certificate

These minutes are unconfirmed.

Cr A Rayner
Mayor

Brett Walsh
Chief Executive Officer