

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LISMORE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026 AT 10:00 AM

Please note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next Council meeting. Decisions recorded in the draft minutes are subject to the Council's Code of Meeting Practice in relation to rescinding decisions.

Present

Mayor, Councillor Krieg; Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Rob (via audio-visual), Waters together with Mr Butron, General Manager; Ms Keneally, Director Roads & Infrastructure; Mr Potter, Director Water Waste & Open Spaces; Mr Singh-Pangly, Director Corporate Sustainability; Mr Schubert, Technology Support Officer; Mr Mercer, Manager Finance Partnering, Corporate Planning & Revenue; Mr Harty, Manager Corporate Finance; Mr Baker, Deputy Director - Waste & Resilience; Mr Readman, Manager Technology & Innovation; Mr Smith, Manager Work Health & Safety; Mr Ryder, Senior Rates Officer; Ms van Iersel, Manager Strategic Services; Mr Wright, Consultant at CompaqNow; Ms Cotterill, Manager Governance; Mrs Mitchell, Executive Officer and Miss Hull, Executive Assistant - General Manager.

Apologies and Applications for Leave of Absence or Attendance by Audio-Visual Link

RESOLVED that Council approve:

- attendance by audio-visual link for Councillor Rob on medical grounds
- a leave of absence for Councillor Battista from 30 March to 19 April 2026
- a leave of absence for Councillor Guise for the April Council meeting

(Councillors Hall/Bing)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Confirmation of Minutes

1/26 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Lismore City Council held on 10 February 2026 be confirmed.

(Councillors Dalton-Earls/Bing)

Voting for:	Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters
Voting against:	Nil

Disclosures of Interest

Clr Battista declared a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest for the following item: 11.8 Bellevue Park Consultation

Nature: I am a member of Lismore Friendship Festival that are holding an event at the Showground in July

Clr Guise declared a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest for the following item: 7.1 Six Point Regional Health Plan

Nature: I work for NSW Health

Clr Gordon declared a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest for the following item: 11.8 Bellevue Park Consultation

Nature: I am an Executive and a Show Society member and work closely with Nimbin

Clr Knight-Smith declared a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest for the following item: 11.8 Bellevue Park Consultation

Nature: I am a Show Society member

Altering Order of Business

2/263/26 **RESOLVED** that the order of business be altered to debate the following matters raised during Public Forum:

- 11.4 Speed limit restrictions
- 11.6 Improving the health of the Richmond River
- 11.9 Koala National Parks

(Councillors Dalton-Earls/Knight-Smith)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Councillor Bing

11.4 Speed limit restrictions

MOTION moved that Council:

1. notes the reduction of the speed limit from 100 km/h to 80 km/h on the Bruxner Highway between Lismore to Casino, aimed at reducing koala fatalities
2. recognises the urgent need to protect koala populations in the Northern Rivers and

- their ecological, cultural, and tourism value to local communities
3. expresses concern that a speed limit reduction on a major regional transport corridor may:
 - a. impede freight and commercial transport efficiency
 - b. increase travel times for residents, workers, and emergency services
 - c. lead to non-compliance and driver frustration without achieving significant wildlife protection outcomes
 4. requests Transport for NSW and relevant agencies prioritise evidence-based and targeted mitigation measures before implementing a permanent speed reduction, including:
 - a. installation of wildlife fencing and fauna underpasses/overpasses at identified high-risk koala crossing points
 - b. rumble strips, reflective signage, and flashing warning systems at verified wildlife crossings
 - c. motion-detection or thermal sensor technology to alert drivers during peak koala movement periods
 - d. roadside vegetation management to improve sightlines and reduce collision risk
 5. calls on the NSW Government to provide detailed, publicly available data on:
 - a. confirmed koala strike statistics along the Lismore–Casino corridor
 - b. the effectiveness of an 80 km/h speed limit compared to targeted mitigation strategies
 - c. cost-benefit analysis of alternative wildlife protection measures
 - d. advocates for a balanced solution that safeguards koalas while maintaining the safety, efficiency, and economic viability of a key regional transport route

(Councillors Gordon/Hall)

RESOLVED that the motion be put.

(Councillor Hall)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Jensen, Knight-Smith and Waters

4/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. notes the reduction of the speed limit from 100 km/h to 80 km/h on the Bruxner Highway between Lismore to Casino, aimed at reducing koala fatalities
2. recognises the urgent need to protect koala populations in the Northern Rivers and their ecological, cultural, and tourism value to local communities
3. expresses concern that a speed limit reduction on a major regional transport corridor may:

- a. impede freight and commercial transport efficiency
 - b. increase travel times for residents, workers, and emergency services
 - c. lead to non-compliance and driver frustration without achieving significant wildlife protection outcomes
4. requests Transport for NSW and relevant agencies prioritise evidence-based and targeted mitigation measures before implementing a permanent speed reduction, including:
- a. installation of wildlife fencing and fauna underpasses/overpasses at identified high-risk koala crossing points
 - b. rumble strips, reflective signage, and flashing warning systems at verified wildlife crossings
 - c. motion-detection or thermal sensor technology to alert drivers during peak koala movement periods
 - d. roadside vegetation management to improve sightlines and reduce collision risk
5. calls on the NSW Government to provide detailed, publicly available data on:
- a. confirmed koala strike statistics along the Lismore–Casino corridor
 - b. the effectiveness of an 80 km/h speed limit compared to targeted mitigation strategies
 - c. cost-benefit analysis of alternative wildlife protection measures
 - d. advocates for a balanced solution that safeguards koalas while maintaining the safety, efficiency, and economic viability of a key regional transport route

(Councillors Gordon/Hall) (BP26/144)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Jensen, Knight-Smith and Waters

11.6 Improving the health of the Richmond River

MOTION moved that Council:

1. support a Richmond River Commission, with a commissioner, ongoing funding and statutory powers and obligations to improve the health of the Richmond River, its catchment, tributaries and estuary
2. writes to the relevant NSW Government Ministers and MP's seeking their urgent support to improve the health of the Richmond River, including by:
 - i. establishing a Richmond River Commission as described in part 1
 - ii. ongoing funding of the Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative, including increased funding for research and education on river recovery, fencing provisions for riverbanks, wetland restoration, catchment revegetation, and weed management

- iii. establishing a state-led revolving land acquisition fund and a voluntary covenant program for the purchase and sale of key pieces of low-lying agricultural land, based on the prior work of Rous County Council's Operation Recovery Stages 1 and 2
 - iv. Have the mayors from each of the Richmond catchments (Kyogle, Richmond Valley, Ballina and Lismore) or their delegates sit on the commission and have input into the appointment of the commissioner.
3. invites the relevant NSW Government Ministers, MPs and the coordinators of the Richmond River Catchment Partnership Steering Committee to meet and discuss the items outlined above, including visits to important sites of degradation and restoration across the catchment, including within the Lismore local government area

(Councillors Waters/Gordon)

RESOLVED that the motion be put

(Councillor Hall)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Knight-Smith and Waters

5/266/26 **DEFEATED** that Council:

1. support a Richmond River Commission, with a commissioner, ongoing funding and statutory powers and obligations to improve the health of the Richmond River, its catchment, tributaries and estuary
2. writes to the relevant NSW Government Ministers and MP's seeking their urgent support to improve the health of the Richmond River, including by:
 - i. establishing a Richmond River Commission as described in part 1
 - ii. ongoing funding of the Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative, including increased funding for research and education on river recovery, fencing provisions for riverbanks, wetland restoration, catchment revegetation, and weed management
 - iii. establishing a state-led revolving land acquisition fund and a voluntary covenant program for the purchase and sale of key pieces of low-lying agricultural land, based on the prior work of Rous County Council's Operation Recovery Stages 1 and 2
3. invites the relevant NSW Government Ministers, MPs and the coordinators of the Richmond River Catchment Partnership Steering Committee to meet and discuss the items outlined above, including visits to important sites of degradation and restoration across the catchment, including within the Lismore local government area
4. have the Mayors from each of the catchment being Richmond Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Ballina or their delegate sit on the commission and have input into the appointment of a commissioner

(Councillors Jensen/Bing) (BP26/136)

Voting for: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Waters

Voting against: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Jensen and Rob

7/26

FORESHADOWED MOTION moved and **RESOLVED** that Council support in-principle the idea of the Richmond River Commission after CSIRO flood mitigation strategies have been identified, if still required.

(Councillors Jensen/Bing) (BP26/136)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Guise and Waters

11.9 Koala National Parks

MOTION moved that Council:

1. affirms its strong support for local timber industry workers, contractors, haulage operators, sawmills, manufacturers and small businesses operating within the Lismore local government area (LGA)
2. recognises that the forestry and timber sector remains a critical employer in the Northern Rivers and forms part of the region's economic backbone
3. notes with concern ongoing public discussion regarding further transfers of State Forests and private land into National Parks and Conservation Reserves across the region
4. states unequivocally that Lismore City Council opposes any further announcements of, or transfers of, State Forest or privately owned land within the Lismore LGA into National Parks, Conservation Reserves or similar classifications that would remove or substantially restrict sustainable timber harvesting activities
5. calls on the NSW Government to:
 - a. immediately rule out further land tenure changes within the Lismore LGA that threaten local timber jobs
 - b. guarantee meaningful consultation with affected communities and Council prior to any future proposals
 - c. publicly release full economic and employment impact assessments
 - d. writes urgently to the NSW Premier, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Agriculture and Regional NSW, and local State Members seeking formal clarification of Government intentions regarding land tenure changes within the Lismore LGA

(Councillors Gordon/Battista)

Councillor Dalton-Earls left the meeting, the time being 11:12AM

Councillor Dalton-Earls returned to the meeting, the time being 11:14AM

Councillor Bing left the meeting, the time being 11:17AM

Councillor Bing returned to the meeting, the time being 11:19AM

RESOLVED that the motion be put.

(Councillor Rob)

Voting for: Councillors Bing, Hall, Gordon, Jensen, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Battista, Dalton-Earls, Guise, Knight-Smith and Waters

8/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. affirms its strong support for local timber industry workers, contractors, haulage operators, sawmills, manufacturers and small businesses operating within the Lismore local government area (LGA)
2. recognises that the forestry and timber sector remains a critical employer in the Northern Rivers and forms part of the region's economic backbone
3. notes with concern ongoing public discussion regarding further transfers of State Forests and private land into National Parks and Conservation Reserves across the region
4. states unequivocally that Lismore City Council opposes any further announcements of, or transfers of, State Forest or privately owned land within the Lismore LGA into National Parks, Conservation Reserves or similar classifications that would remove or substantially restrict sustainable timber harvesting activities
5. calls on the NSW Government to:
 - a. immediately rule out further land tenure changes within the Lismore LGA that threaten local timber jobs
 - b. guarantee meaningful consultation with affected communities and Council prior to any future proposals
 - c. publicly release full economic and employment impact assessments
 - d. writes urgently to the NSW Premier, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Agriculture and Regional NSW, and local State Members seeking formal clarification of Government intentions regarding land tenure changes within the Lismore LGA

(Councillors Gordon/Battista) (BP26/140)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Jensen, Knight-Smith and Waters

Matter of Urgency

DEFEATED that the following motion be considered urgent.

That Council meetings return to the Goonellabah Chambers due to the Municipal Building being unfit for purpose, for reasons including:

- terrible acoustics for both online viewing and in-chambers
- too cramped for staff and councillors, raising WHS issues
- too small public gallery, with no flow over contingency for large public attendance or social distancing
- inadequate parking

(Councillors Guise/Waters)

Voting for: Councillors Guise, Knight-Smith and Waters

Voting against: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Krieg and Rob

Mayoral Minute(s) and Condolence Motions

7.1 Six Point Regional Health Plan

9/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. fully endorse and support Dr McGirr's six-point plan to see improvements in rural and regional health into the future
2. write to the Minister for Regional Health to advise our support

(Councillor Krieg) (BP26/148)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Councillor Hall left the meeting, the time being 11:27AM

Councillor Hall returned to the meeting, the time being 11:30AM

Councillor Jensen left the meeting, the time being 11:36AM

Councillor Jensen returned to the meeting, the time being 11:37AM

Councillor Waters left the meeting, the time being 11:40AM

Councillor Waters returned to the meeting, the time being 11:42AM

7.2 Uralba Street Pedestrian Crossing

10/26

RESOLVED that:

1. Council works with Transport for NSW to explore options to provide safe passage across Uralba Street, between Dawson and Brewster Streets.
2. the item be referred to the Local Traffic Internal Group

(Councillor Krieg) (BP26/149)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Reports of Committees

8.1 Local Traffic Forum

11/26

RESOLVED that the minutes be received and the recommendations contained therein be noted.

(Councillors Hall/Dalton-Earls) (BP26/147)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Matters Arising

9.1 Crime Prevention Advisory Group

MOTION moved that that Council requests the General Manager to hold two (2) Community Safety Forums per year inviting key stakeholders such as NSW Police, NSW Health, NSW Ambulance, Business Lismore, Social Futures, Local members and other stakeholders to attend.

(Councillors Rob/Dalton-Earls)

Councillor Battista left the meeting, the time being 12:01PM

Councillor Battista returned to the meeting, the time being 12:03PM

FORESHADOWED MOTION moved that Council establish a Crime Prevention Advisory Group and a report be developed by the General Manager for the May Council meeting detailing what would be the best way to develop that.

(Councillors Dalton-Earls)

12/26 **RESOLVED** that that Council requests the General Manager to hold two (2) Community Safety Forums per year inviting key stakeholders such as NSW Police, NSW Health, NSW Ambulance, Business Lismore, Social Futures, Local members and other stakeholders to attend.

(Councillors Rob/Dalton-Earls) (BP25/997)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Guise, Knight-Smith and Waters

9.2 Questions on Notice

13/26 **RESOLVED** that the Questions on Notice responses provided in this report be noted.

(Councillors Bing/Dalton-Earls) (BP26/119)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Reports of the General Manager

10.1 Monthly Finance and Investment Report

14/26 **RESOLVED** that Council note the report and adopt the Investment report for February 2026.

(Councillors Bing/Battista) (BP26/126)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Councillor Guise

10.2 Investment Strategy

MOTION moved that Council:

1. approve adding Australian bank bonds and TCorp managed funds in the Investment Strategy for the Investment Portfolio with the asset allocation ranges

2. delegate authority to the General Manager to periodically adapt specific asset allocation across the approved asset classes and within the range

Asset Class	Allocation Range
Cash at Bank	15-50%
Term Deposits	20-80%
Bank Bonds	0-30%
TCorp Managed Funds	0-25%

(Councillors Bing/Gordon)

Councillor Dalton-Earls left the meeting, the time being 12:22PM

Councillor Dalton-Earls returned to the meeting, the time being 12:23PM

RESOLVED that the amendment be put

(Councillor Krieg)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillor Guise and Waters

15/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. approve adding Australian bank bonds and TCorp managed funds in the Investment Strategy for the Investment Portfolio with the asset allocation ranges
2. delegate authority to the General Manager to periodically adapt specific asset allocation across the approved asset classes and within the range

Asset Class	Allocation Range
Cash at Bank	15-50%
Term Deposits	20-80%
Bank Bonds	0-30%
TCorp Managed Funds	0-25%

(Councillors Bing/Gordon) (BP26/159)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Rob

Voting against: Councillors Guise and Waters

At this point the meeting adjourned for lunch, the time being 12:33PM

The meeting resumed at 1:00PM

Councillor Hall returned to the meeting, the time being 1:02PM

10.3 Policy Review

16/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. adopt the new 1.2.34 Customer Service Policy
2. adopt the revised 8.2.1 Sport, Culture, Art & Tourism, with the addition of:
 - a) 8. support the creative and cultural sector through the continuation and development of strategic partnerships with creative and cultural sector, organisations, and community
 - b) Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan in Key References
1. revoke 8.5.1 Arts & Culture Policy

(Councillors Gordon/Waters) (BP26/116)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Notices of Motion / Questions with Notice

11.1 Mayoral Attendance Report

17/26

RESOLVED that Council receives the Mayoral Attendance Report for February 2026.

(Councillors Krieg/Hall) (BP26/124)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Waters

Voting against: Councillor Rob

11.2 Aboriginal Advisory Group

MOTION moved that:

1. the Aboriginal Advisory Group be dissolved pursuant to clause 2 of the Advisory Groups Terms of Reference and reference to it be removed from the Terms of Reference and Council's website
2. a report be returned to council at the May council meeting regarding the viability of establishing and including councillors and community representatives on a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Committee, using a format similar to that

operating at Rous County Council

3. the first paragraph of in the Terms of Reference of the Advisory Groups clause '2. Representatives' be amended to include the following wording after the current wording: All community representatives appointed by resolution of Council must either reside, own real property, or own a business in the Lismore local government area
4. clause '3. Structure' be amended to Include the following point between the two points under the heading Sister City Advisory Group (SCAG):

One representative from the Father Tony Glynn Japan-Australia Centre

(Councillors Rob/Hall)

Councillor Knight-Smith left the meeting, the time being 1:26PM

Councillor Knight-Smith returned to the meeting, the time being 1:29PM

18/26

AMENDMENT moved and **RESOLVED** that:

1. a report be returned to council at the May council meeting regarding the viability of establishing and including councillors and community representatives on a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Committee, using a format similar to that operating at Rous County Council
2. the first paragraph of in the Terms of Reference of the Advisory Groups clause '2. Representatives' be amended to include the following wording after the current wording: All community representatives appointed by resolution of Council must either reside, own real property, or own a business in the Lismore local government area
3. clause '3. Structure' be amended to Include the following point between the two points under the heading Sister City Advisory Group (SCAG):

One representative from the Father Tony Glynn Japan-Australia Centre

(Councillors Waters/Hall) (BP26/94)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Councillors Dalton-Earls, Guise, Knight-Smith and Krieg

11.3 Advocacy for Strategic Housing Reform: Securing the Future for Older Women

MOTION moved that Council:

1. acknowledges the AIHW Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2024–25, confirming that women aged 55+ are the fastest-growing cohort seeking homelessness assistance in Australia, with approximately 31,700 individuals seeking support nationally in the last financial year
2. notes the Minns Labor Government's Building Productivity Reforms 2026, which

establish a single statewide approval pathway for modular and prefabricated housing to accelerate delivery times and reduce construction costs

3. resolves to write to The Hon Paul Scully MP, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, The Hon Rose Jackson MLC, Minister for Housing and Homelessness and The Hon Janelle Saffin MP, Member for Lismore to:
 - a. request that Lismore be designated a priority trial site for state-led Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) pilots specifically designed for older women at risk of or experiencing homelessness

(Councillor Dalton-Earls)

Lapsed due to want of a seconder.

11.5 Investing in Lismore's Future

MOTION moved that Council requests the General Manager to provide a report on options for an investment attraction strategy, aligned to the proposed Economic Development Plan and Local Strategic Planning Statement, including indicative costs for consideration in the 2026/2027 budget.

(Councillors Hall/Bing)

Councillor Bing left the meeting, the time being 1:56 PM

Councillor Bing returned to the meeting, the time being 1:59 PM

Councillor Waters left the meeting, the time being 2:10 PM

Councillor Waters returned to the meeting, the time being 2:11 PM

RESOLVED that the motion be put.

(Councillor Gordon)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Councillor Guise

19/26

RESOLVED that Council requests the General Manager to provide a report on options for an investment attraction strategy, aligned to the proposed Economic Development Plan and Local Strategic Planning Statement, including indicative costs for consideration in the 2026/2027 budget.

(Councillors Hall/Bing) (BP26/141)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen,

Voting against: Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters
Councillor Guise

11.7 Work Health and Safety - Psychosocial Risk Management Report Request

That Council:

1. notes that under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (NSW), Council, as a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking, has a primary duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of workers, including psychological health
2. acknowledges that the SafeWork NSW Code of Practice: Managing Psychosocial Hazards at Work, and associated regulatory requirements, require organisations to identify, assess and control psychosocial risks
3. recognises that while councillors are not classified as workers or officers under the WHS Act, Council business may expose both staff and councillors to psychosocial risks including bullying, harassment and aggression
4. resolves that the General Manager provide a report to Council that:
 - a) outlines Council's current systems, policies and procedures for identifying, assessing and managing psychosocial hazards under its WHS obligations
 - b) identifies whether those systems align with the SafeWork NSW Code of Practice and current WHS Regulation requirements, and outlines any areas requiring strengthening
 - c) clarifies how psychosocial risks affecting councillors and staff in the conduct of Council business are addressed through existing governance mechanisms

Motion withdrawn.

11.8 Bellevue Park Consultation

20/26

RESOLVED that Council:

1. undertake community consultation with regards to the future use of Bellevue Park
2. engage with the Nimbin A&I Society to determine its interest in the land
3. pending the outcome of the community consultation, a report be brought back to Council as to the future preferred use of the land

(Councillors Waters/Gordon) (BP26/138)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg and Waters

Voting against: Councillors Bing and Rob

Councillor Hall left the meeting, the time being 2:14 PM

Councillor Hall returned to the meeting, the time being 2:19 PM

11.10 Open Spaces and Parks Maintenance Schedules and Allocations

Can the General Manager provide a report detailing changes to budget allocations and the planned maintenance program/schedule (including maintenance frequencies and service levels) for Open Spaces and Parks maintenance over the past five financial years, presented by financial year, including the annual adopted budget and any variations/revisions for each year, and noting any changes to service levels/frequencies and any changes to staffing, contractors, or delivery model arrangements (and if any component is not available in this format, please provide the closest available report/extract and identify the source system)?

General Manager's response:

Yes a report can be provided if Council resolves accordingly. Please note much of the financial information requested is publicly available on Council's website by examining past adopted budgets, QBRs and end of financial year reports.

MOTION moved that Council review the allocations and maintenance schedule.

(Councillor Dalton-Earls)

Lapsed due to want of a seconder.

11.11 Blakebrook Quarry Fence

Can the General Manager provide a project summary for the Blakebrook Quarry boundary fencing works referenced in the December 2025 QBRS, including the scope of works, the procurement method (including whether delivered in-house or by external contractor), the delivery timeframe (start and completion month/quarter), and a financial summary showing the total approved budget, expenditure/commitments to date, and remaining budget?

General Manager's response:

Yes, a summary can be provided if Council resolves accordingly. Please note part of this project has been completed following a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and guidelines.

Confidential Matters – Closed Council Meeting

21/26	RESOLVED that Council now exclude the press and public and meet in Closed Council to consider the following matters;
Item	12.1 Waste Capital Program - FY2026/2027 Funding Commitment and Contract Award Delegation
Grounds for Closure Public Interest	Section 10A(2) (c): Discussion of this matter in an open meeting would on balance be contrary to the public interest because it relates to: information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
Item	12.2 Proposed Rates Write Off
Grounds for Closure Public Interest	Section 10A(2) (b): Discussion of this matter in an open meeting would on balance be contrary to the public interest because it relates to: the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer.
(Councillors Krieg/Hall)	
Voting for:	Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters
Voting against:	Councillor Guise

Resumption of Open Council

When the Council had resumed its former sitting, the Mayor reported that Council, meeting in Closed Session, had RESOLVED:

12.1 Waste Capital Program - FY2026/2027 Funding Commitment and Contract Award Delegation

That Council:

1. agrees to commit \$1,996,751 within the FY2026/2027 budget from the Public Infrastructure and Building Assets Reserve and Domestic Waste Reserve to enable award of the New Operational Service Road construction contract (T25/23)
2. delegate authority to the General Manager to finalise and execute the contract and any other documentation required to give effect to this resolution for contract T25/23.

(Councillors Battista/Bing) (BP26/117)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Dalton-Earls, Gordon, Hall, Jensen, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Councillors Guise and Knight-Smith

12.2 Proposed Rates Write Off

That Council write off the rates and charges owed by Ms Beth Webster on rates and water assessment number 8180 covered by the 25 November 2020 resolution under s582 of the *Local Government Act* and clause 131(4)(b) of the *Local Government Regulation*, the amount being \$35,456.47 (rates \$24,944.60, water \$10,511.87).

(Councillors Knight-Smith/Bing) (BP26/156)

Voting for: Councillors Battista, Bing, Gordon, Guise, Hall, Jensen, Knight-Smith, Krieg, Rob and Waters

Voting against: Nil

Absent: Councillor Dalton-Earls

Closure

This concluded the business and the meeting terminated at 2.40 pm.

CONFIRMED > > 2026 at which meeting the signature herein was subscribed.

MAYOR