



Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

29 September 2026

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MORUYA
ON TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

MINUTES

1. WELCOME	1
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	1
3. APOLOGIES.....	1
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	2
5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA	2
6. PUBLIC FORUM (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY).....	2
7. MAYORAL MINUTES.....	2
Nil	
8. NOTICES OF MOTION	2
Nil	
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS	2
Nil	
10. PETITIONS	2
Nil	
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS	
CAR26/016 Reopen the Batemans Bay Community Centre for Community Use.....	4
CAR26/018 Narooma School of Arts Funding Request	5
11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS	6
GMR26/012 Delivery Program 2025-29 and Operational Plan 2025-26 12 Month Performance Update.....	6
GMR26/013 Draft Submission to the NSW Local Government Grants Commission on the Proposed Financial Assistance Grants Methodology	7
GMR26/014 Draft Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 - Referral for Audit	8
GMR26/015 Investments made as at 31 August 2026	9
GMR26/016 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - Meeting Minutes 1 April 2026 ...	10
12. PLANNING, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT REPORTS.....	11

PER26/025	Emissions Reduction Plan.....	11
PER26/026	Development Application Performance Report - July 2025 - June 2026.....	12
13.	INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS.....	13
IR26/011	Tomakin Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrade	13
IR26/012	Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee - Representatives.....	15
IR26/013	Local Transport Forum No. 2 for 2026-27	17
14.	COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION REPORTS.....	18
CAR26/017	Batemans Bay Community Centre Draft Fees and Charges	18
15.	DELEGATE REPORT	19
DR26/002	ALGA National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress 2026 ...	19
18.	CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS	20

**MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MORUYA
ON TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2026
COMMENCING AT 12:30 PM**

PRESENT: Councillor Mathew Hatcher, Mayor (in the Chair)
Councillors Laurence Babington (via audio visual link), Phil Constable, Mick Johnson, Rob Pollock OAM, Amber Schutz, Colleen Turner and Sharon Winslade

Staff: Mark Ferguson, General Manager
Ms H Thomson, Acting Director Planning, Housing and Environment
Mr G Attenborough, Director, Infrastructure Services
Mrs K Arthur, Director, Community, Arts and Recreation
Mrs J Sullivan, Chief Financial Officer
Mr S Westbury, Corporate Manager, Governance and Risk
Mrs S Dennis, Coordinator Office of the General Manager
Ms L Evans, Minute Secretary

1. WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, Eurobodalla Shire Council recognises Aboriginal people as the original inhabitants and custodians of all land and water in the Eurobodalla and respects their enduring cultural and spiritual connection to it. Eurobodalla Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we live. Council pays respect to Elders past, present and future. We are on Yuin Country.

3. APOLOGIES

26/128 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Constable

THAT apologies be received from Councillor Anthony Mayne.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

26/129 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Constable

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 25 August 2026 be confirmed.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

6. PUBLIC FORUM (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

(Minutes of Deputations from the Public Gallery are a summary only and do not purport to be a complete transcript of the proceedings.)

PF26/009 CAR26/016 REOPEN THE BATEMANS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY USE

Alan Russell, Manager, Meals on Wheels addressed Council in relation to CAR26/016 Reopen the Batemans Bay Community Centre for Community Use.

A copy of his presentation is available on Council's website.

PF26/010 CAR26/018 NAROOMA SCHOOL OF ARTS FUNDING REQUEST

Barbara McConchie addressed Council in relation to CAR26/018 Narooma School of Arts Funding Request.

A copy of her presentation is available on Council's website.

7. MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

10. PETITIONS

Nil

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

26/130 MOTION Councillor Hatcher/Councillor Schutz

That Standing Orders be suspended in order to bring forward the following items:

- CAR26/016 Reopen the Batemans Bay Community Centre for Community Use
- CAR26/018 Narooma School of Arts Funding Request.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

At **1.18pm** the Council meeting suspended standing orders to deal with the items listed above.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

CAR26/016 REOPEN THE BATEMANS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY USE

File Ref: S023-T00001

26/131 MOTION Councillor Constable/Councillor Pollock OAM

That Council:

1. Defers determination of the management model for the Batemans Bay Community Centre until the Ordinary Meeting of 27 October 2026, while reaffirming its commitment to reopening the centre for affordable and accessible community use.
2. Requests a further report comparing direct Council management and the proposed Meals on Wheels lease arrangement, addressing:
 - The room-hire needs identified in the EOIs, including regular, occasional, daytime, evening and weekend use.
 - How each option would protect fair access, affordable fees and room availability for existing and future community users.
 - Comparable operating and staffing costs, confirmed funding commitments, financial risks and responsibilities.
 - The effect of deferral on reopening and any feasible, costed interim arrangements.
3. Requests that staff clarify requirements with interested community hirers and Meals on Wheels to inform that assessment.
4. Makes no commitment to a lease, licence or preferred operator pending consideration of the further report.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM and A Schutz.

Against the Motion: Crs C Turner and S Winslade.

CAR26/018 NAROOMA SCHOOL OF ARTS FUNDING REQUEST

File Ref: S026-T00013

26/132 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Turner

1. That Council provides the Narooma School of Arts Inc (NSoA) \$55,016 per year for the next three financial years, commencing in 2026-2027, to fund the Volunteer and Studio Coordinator position at the facility.
2. That Council review the funding arrangement in 2028-2029.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

26/133 MOTION Councillor Hatcher/Councillor Schutz

That Standing Orders be resumed.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

At **1.45pm** the Council meeting resumed standing orders.

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

**GMR26/012 DELIVERY PROGRAM 2025-29 AND OPERATIONAL PLAN 2025-26 12 MONTH
PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

File Ref: S012-T00025

26/134 MOTION Councillor Johnson/Councillor Schutz

That Council receive and note the Delivery Program 2025-29 and Operational Plan 2025-26 12 Month Performance Update report.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

**GMR26/013 DRAFT SUBMISSION TO THE NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION
ON THE PROPOSED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS METHODOLOGY**

File Ref: S012-T00025

26/135 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Winslade

That Council endorse the attached submission to the NSW Local Government Grants Commission – Proposed Methodology Consultation.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

**GMR26/014 DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026 -
REFERRAL FOR AUDIT**

File Ref: S011-T00002

26/136 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Turner

1. That the draft Annual Financial Statements (including the General-Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Purpose Financial Statements) for the year ended 30 June 2026 be referred to audit.
2. That the statement by councillors and management be made pursuant to section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (as amended) and signed by the mayor, deputy mayor (or councillor), general manager and responsible accounting officer with reference to both the General Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Purpose Financial Statements.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

GMR26/015 INVESTMENTS MADE AS AT 31 AUGUST 2026

File Ref: S011-T00006, S012-T00025

26/137 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Johnson

That the certification of investments as of 31 August 2026, made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Council's Investment Policy and the provision of Clause 1 (Reg. 212) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, be received.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

**GMR26/016 AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES 1 APRIL
2026**

File Ref: S004-T00048

26/138 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Schutz

That Council receive and note the minutes of the ARIC meeting held on 1 April 2026.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A
Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

12. PLANNING, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT REPORTS

PER26/025 EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN

File Ref:

26/139 MOTION Councillor Turner/Councillor Winslade

1. That Council adopt the Emissions Reduction Plan 2025–2040.
2. That Council endorse the establishment of new budgets to support implementation of the Emissions Reduction Plan, including
 - I. Bay Pavillion and Narooma Pool solar installations budget of \$1.1 Million for Financial Year 2026/2027.
 - II. Solar recurring annual budget of \$200,000
 - III. Moruya Admin Building EV charging infrastructure budget of \$50,000 for Financial Year 2026/2027.
 - IV. Depots EV charging infrastructure budget of \$175,000 in Financial Year 2027/2028.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

PER26/026 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION PERFORMANCE REPORT - JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

File Ref: S012-T00025

26/140 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Schutz

That Council receive and note the Development Application Performance Report – July 2025 to June 2026.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

13. INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS

IR26/011 TOMAKIN SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

File Ref: S029-T00004

26/141 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Winslade

1. That Council notes that augmentation of the northern region sewerage system is required to address existing capacity constraints, accommodate future population growth and maintain regulatory compliance.
2. That Council notes the Tomakin Sewage Treatment Plant augmentation is the key enabling project within Council's adopted regional wastewater strategy, supporting future load diversion from Batemans Bay and optimisation of both treatment plants.
3. That Council acknowledges the necessity of this project.
4. That Council approves progression of the Tomakin Sewerage Treatment Plant Augmentation Project to the next phase, including completion of detailed design, preparation of tender documentation and obtaining the necessary statutory approvals.
5. That Council receives a further report following completion of the detailed design and tender process, including updated project costs and a recommendation regarding construction contract procurement.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

ADJOURNMENT

26/142 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Winslade

THAT the Ordinary Council Meeting be adjourned for a five minute recess.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

At **3pm** the Mayor adjourned the Ordinary meeting of Council.

26/143 MOTION Councillor Hatcher/Councillor Constable

THAT the Ordinary Council Meeting be resumed.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

At **3.10pm** the Mayor reconvened the Ordinary meeting of Council.

IR26/012 MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - REPRESENTATIVES

File Ref: OP0108-S010

RECOMMENDATION Councillor Pollock OAM/Councillor Schutz

That Council appoint ten (10) community representatives to the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee for the duration of this term of Council, as recommended in the Confidential Attachment to this report.

26/144 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Johnson

That Council move into confidential to discuss a matter involving the composition of the personnel on the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

In accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council can exclude members of the public from the meeting and go into Closed Session to consider confidential matters, if those matters involve:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals;

and Council considers that discussion of the material in open session would be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with Section 10A(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a council, or a committee of a council, may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

No members of the public were present in the gallery.

At **3.13pm** the Ordinary Meeting of Council moved into Closed Session.

At **3.26pm** the Ordinary Meeting of Council resumed Open Session.

The Mayor advised that during Closed Session, Council resolved the following motion:

26/145 AMENDMENT Councillor Schutz/Councillor Winslade

That Council:

1. Amends the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee Terms of Reference under the Composition section to increase the maximum number of

- community representatives from 10 to 11.
2. Appoints all 11 applicants to the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee for the duration of this term of Council.
3. Appoints the alternate Chair to be Clr Laurence Babington.

(The Amendment on being put became the **MOTION**)

Voting Record

For the Amendment: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Amendment: Nil.

26/146 MOTION Councillor Schutz/Councillor Winslade

That Council:

1. Amends the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee Terms of Reference under the Composition section to increase the maximum number of community representatives from 10 to 11.
2. Appoints all 11 applicants to the Marine Infrastructure Advisory Committee for the duration of this term of Council.
3. Appoints the alternate Chair to be Clr Laurence Babington.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

IR26/013 LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM NO. 2 FOR 2026-27

File Ref: S030-T00018

26/147 MOTION Councillor Constable/Councillor Schutz

1. That Council approve the following acts for determination from Local Transport Forum No. 2 for 2026-27:

- **2027.RT.002 George Bass Drive and Oceanview Way intersection, Tomakin**

That Council plan 4774-A-7 George Bass Drive and Oceanview Way intersection, Tomakin, be approved.

- **2027.RT.003 Albert Street Raised Pedestrian Crossing, Moruya**

That Council plan 4841-H-4 Albert Street raised pedestrian crossing, Moruya, be approved.

- **2027.RT.004 Garland Street 'Give Way', Moruya Airport**

That Council plan 2815-Q-3 Garland Street, Moruya 'Give Way' and associated line marking be approved.

- **2027.RT.005 Heath Street extension, Broulee**

That the submitted plan 834-7A-10 Heath Street, Broulee, be approved.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

14. COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION REPORTS

CAR26/017 BATEMANS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES

File Ref: S011-T00005

26/148 MOTION Councillor Winslade/Councillor Johnson

That Council adopt the draft fees and charges for the Batemans Bay Community Centre, as detailed in Attachment 1.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

15. DELEGATE REPORT

**DR26/002 ALGA NATIONAL LOCAL ROADS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONGRESS
2026**

File Ref: S004-T00019

26/149 MOTION Councillor Pollock OAM/Councillor Winslade

That the Delegate's Report from Councillor Rob Pollock on the ALGA National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress 2026 be received and noted.

(The Motion on being put was declared **CARRIED**)

Voting Record

For the Motion: Crs L Babington, P Constable, M Hatcher, M Johnson, R Pollock OAM, A Schutz, C Turner and S Winslade.

Against the Motion: Nil.

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16. URGENT BUSINESS

Clr Pollock raised a matter regarding a campervan fire at Riverside Park earlier that day and requested consideration of any urgent actions available to Council. The Mayor advised that the matter would be taken on notice and discussed with Councillors and the General Manager.

17. DEALING WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION

Refer to item IR26/012.

18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

Statewide Mutual Risk Management Excellence Award

The Mayor announced that Council was the recipient of the Statewide Mutual Risk Management Excellence Award (Operational). The award was accepted by Risk Coordinator Brett Izzard, Aquatics Contract Coordinator Jason Gray and Facilities Officer Adam Wright. The award recognises safety improvement works undertaken at the stair seating area within the aquatic centre at the Bay Pavilions.

The project involved safety improvements to the concrete step seating along the pool area, including the application of a new non-slip coating and enhanced line marking. Council was competing against more than 100 councils across New South Wales.

Statewide Mutual advised that the initiative could save Council up to \$1.2 million in excess costs by reducing incidents, risks and injuries. The Mayor noted that there have been no reported injuries at this location since the improvements were implemented.

The Mayor acknowledged the team's efforts and congratulated them on receiving the award. The proactive measures taken by Council staff to reduce incidents at the site are expected to contribute to lower long-term insurance costs for Council.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3.42PM

CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 27 October 2026 at which meeting the signature hereon was subscribed.