



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 6 May 2025, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 6 May 2025.

Cr Scott Rossetti (Mayor)

Cr Cindy Madeley (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Catherine Bannerman

Cr Liz Foat

Cr Edward Lowe

Cr Carmel Ripper

Cr Garry Stephens

Cr John Tatterson

Cr Geoff Wells

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer

Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services

Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment

Geoff Hay, Manager Economic Development

Kim Salleh, Manager Communications & Media

Catie Thomson, Governance Officer

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TABLE OF CONTENTS

0.1. TABLE OF CONTENTS2

1. APOLOGIES4

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST.....4

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S4

 3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING.....4

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.....4

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS.....4

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION4

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS5

 7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS.....5

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS5

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE.....6

 9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE6

10. DELEGATES REPORT6

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....6

 11.1. VICTORIAN ELECTION COMMISSION REPORT ON THE 2024 WELLINGTON SHIRE
 COUNCIL ELECTION6

12. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES.....7

 12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT7

 12.2. RESOLVE TO ADVERTISE DRAFT BUDGET 2025/20267

 12.3. INTENTION TO DISPLAY DRAFT REVENUE AND RATING PLAN 2025-29..... 12

13. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.....13

 13.1. RESPONSE TO PETITION - MANNS BEACH 13

14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT13

14.1. AMENDMENT C113 (CORRECTIONS) - REMOVAL OF PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY IN ROSEDALE AND HEYFIELD	13
15. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS	14
16. IN CLOSED SESSION	14
16.1 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION	15
16.2 GLASS AND MIXED RECYCLING CONTRACT	15
16.3 WEST SALE AIRPORT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	15
16.4 COUNCILLOR LEAVE	15
16.5 MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION	15

1. APOLOGIES

NIL

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

NIL

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 15 April 2025.</i>	
COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR WELLS	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 15 April 2025.	
CARRIED	

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS

NIL

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION

NIL

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS

7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
Community Interest in Sealing the Road at Mann's Beach.	1 April 2025	Response at Item 13.1 of this Agenda.	General Manager Built and Natural Environment

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNCILLOR MADELEY acknowledged the commemoration of Anzac Day on 25 April. Councillor Madeley attended the Dawn Service in Sale and the Seaspray Anzac Day service, both were deeply moving. These services were a wonderful opportunity to come together with the community to pay respects to the Anzacs and reflect on the enduring spirit of mateship and sacrifice. In addition, several fellow Councillors attended Anzac Day services in other parts of the Shire, including Heyfield, Maffra, Gormandale, Rosedale, Stratford, Port Albert, Yarram, Golden Beach and Meerlieu. These services across the community show the importance Anzac Day has to the Gippsland region with people of all ages coming together to remember and honour the veterans. Sale also hosted a war graves service and Anzac Day march. Councillor Madeley thanked everyone involved in organising these services including the local RSL, volunteers and community groups. Their efforts ensure that Anzac spirit continues to live on in every part of the Shire.

COUNCILLOR FOAT acknowledged and extended a sincere thankyou to Isabelle, Clinton and Simon for hosting the Councillors on the Longford Gas Plant site tour last Tuesday 29 April 2025. The opportunity to see the operations first-hand and gain a clearer understanding of the plant's role in Australia's energy landscape was really appreciated by all Councillors in attendance. In particular, the discussion about the planned de-commissioning which begins in 2027, gave greater appreciation to the complexity and importance of the transition. It is clear thoughtful consideration is being given to environmental stewardship, workforce planning and community engagement through this process.

COUNCILLOR FOAT also acknowledged the Citizenship Ceremony held at The Wedge on 29 April 2025 which she attended in conjunction with the Mayor and other Councillors. It was a special occasion in which 36 new Australian citizens from 12 different countries were proudly welcomed. The ceremony was led by Mayor Rossetti and was very moving, serving as a reminder of the strength, richness and diversity this citizenship brings to the community. Councillor Foat re-iterated the welcome and wished all new citizens every success, happiness and adventure in this new chapter of their lives.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS acknowledged the Tarra Festival held in Yarram and Port Albert over Easter which he attended with Deputy Mayor Madeley and Councillor Ripper, who were present for various parts of the event. Councillor Stephens congratulated the Tarra Festival Committee for the work done to coordinate the festival, including the Good Friday event in the Yarram Memorial Gardens; the street procession on Easter Saturday which was outstanding; the Port Albert Progress event on Easter Sunday afternoon; the Lions Club market and the Rotary Club Art Show in the Regent Theatre. All the community groups did a tremendous job. Councillor Stephens thanked Sarah Janssen as President, Holly Johnston as Secretary and Ian Jaggard-Hawkins, the Treasurer, for their leadership.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER acknowledged the issue of domestic violence and spoke of her attendance at the Loch Sport book launch for 'Little Bites Domestic Violence Roadmap to Safety and Peace' written by Bobbin Aspland and recommended the book to those who wish to find out more about the issue. She also acknowledged that Council supports – and part of the Council Plan is – advocacy against domestic violence. She noted that a Candlelight Vigil which will take place in Sale tomorrow night, Wednesday 7 May, at 5.30pm at the Sale Clocktower in memory of those whose lives have been lost to family violence. Councillor Ripper encouraged everyone to come together to remember those whose lives have been lost; to support those affected and to commit to ending family violence in our communities.

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

10. DELEGATES REPORT

NIL

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11.1. VICTORIAN ELECTION COMMISSION REPORT ON THE 2024 WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL ELECTION

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That Council receive and note the report as per Attachment 11.1.1 - Election report Wellington Shire Council 2024 Local government elections, prepared by the Victorian Electoral Commission.</i>
COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN
That Council receive and note the report as per Attachment 11.1.1 - Election report Wellington Shire Council 2024 Local government elections, prepared by the Victorian Electoral Commission.
CARRIED

12. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 7 April 2025 to 27 April 2025.

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / COUNCILLOR RIPPER

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 7 April 2025 to 27 April 2025.

CARRIED

12.2. RESOLVE TO ADVERTISE DRAFT BUDGET 2025/2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER CORPORATE FINANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council advertise its draft 2025/26 Budget (as attached) including:

- fees and charges; and**
- multi-year capital projects**

in accordance with Section 96 of the Local Government Act 2020; and

2. Council consider submissions for the draft 2025/26 Budget at an unscheduled Council Meeting on Tuesday 27 May 2025 at 5pm; and

3. Council meet on Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 5pm to consider the formal adoption of the 2025/26 Budget; and

4. Council make the following declarations regarding rates and charges for the period commencing on 1 July 2025 and concluding on 30 June 2026:

A) Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 158, 161 and 162 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, these remain saved provisions under the 1989 Act), the Wellington Shire Council hereby resolves to declare that the amount it intends to raise by rates and annual service charges is \$75.0M:

Type of Rates or charge	\$'000
General Rate:	65,636
Garbage Charge:	6,274
Waste Infrastructure Charge:	2,170
State Government EPA Levy Charge:	564
Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge:	16

- B)**
- (1)** *It be further declared that, subject to paragraph 4 of this Part, the general rate be raised through the application of differential rates.*
 - (2)** *A rate in the dollar of 0.003530 be specified as the general rate (subject to final valuation outcomes).*
 - (3)** *It be confirmed that the general rate for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined so that the amount payable be the Capital Improved Value multiplied by the rate in the dollar of 0.003530 (subject to final valuation outcomes)*
 - (4)**
 - a)** *It be recorded that Council considers that a differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions.*
 - b)** *A differential rate be declared for that rateable land having the characteristics specified below, which characteristics will form the criteria for the differential rate so declared:*
 - (i)** *Farm Land:*
Means any land that:
Is “Farm Land” within the meaning of Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960 (paras a) and b)) and other criteria as defined by Council in c) hereunder
 - a)** *that is not less than 2 hectares in area; and*
 - b)** *that is used primarily for grazing (including agistment), dairying, pig-farming, poultry-farming, fish-farming, tree-farming, bee-keeping, viticulture, horticulture, fruit-growing or the growing of crops of any kind or for any combination of those activities; and*
 - c)** *where the ratepayer is a Primary Producer with any evidence/ruling confirmed by the Australian Taxation Office, registered ABN and business plan.*
- C)** **Garbage Charge:**
- (1)** *An annual service charge of \$295.00 be declared for the collection and disposal of garbage in respect of Residential premises to which the service is available – whether, or not, the owner or occupier of any such premises avails themselves of the service.*
- D)** **Waste Infrastructure Charge:**
- (1)** *An annual service charge be declared for the development of Landfills, Recycling facilities, Transfer Stations and the rehabilitation of Landfill sites, and provision of facilities for ongoing monitoring of landfills, to ensure that Council can continue to provide a waste disposal service.*
 - (2)** *The charge be \$70.00 for each property in respect of which a municipal charge may be levied. This charge will not apply to properties identified as being within the Ninety Mile Beach Restructure Plan Stages 7 – 22, with the exception of those properties with an existing dwelling, where the charge will still apply.*

E) EPA Levy Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$26.50 be declared to cover the costs levied by the State Government Environment Protection Authority on the operation of landfills, not otherwise recouped.**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property to which a Garbage Charge is applied, at the rate of one EPA Levy Charge for each Garbage Charge.**

F) Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$641.80 be declared for wastewater availability in respect of Residential and Commercial premises in the township of Boisdale, to contribute towards the costs of operation and management of the Boisdale Common Effluent System (the System).**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property which is connected to the System, at the rate of one charge per tenement connected.**

G) Cultural and Recreational Land:

- (1) The amount of \$83,500 (excluding service charges) be declared as payable in accordance with Section 4 of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963, having regard to the services provided by the Council in relation to such lands and the benefit to the community derived from this recreational land.**

H) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, this remains as a saved provision under the 1989 Act), Council resolves to declare a Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for conservation purposes.

- (1) Council considers that this rebate will ensure that the biodiversity values of the land will be protected for the benefit of the broader community.**
- (2) The rebate will apply only to the land that is affected by a covenant as described in the covenant document.**
- (3) The rebate will be applied at \$15 per hectare, with a minimum rebate of \$100 and a maximum equal to the annual general rate on the property for that portion of land.**
- (4) Conditions apply as per Council's Policy No. 4.1.11 – Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for Conservation Purposes.**

COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That:

1. Council advertise its draft 2025/26 Budget (as attached) including:

- fees and charges; and**
- multi-year capital projects**

in accordance with Section 96 of the Local Government Act 2020; and

2. Council consider submissions for the draft 2025/26 Budget at an unscheduled Council Meeting on Tuesday 27 May 2025 at 5pm; and

3. Council meet on Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 5pm to consider the formal adoption of the 2025/26 Budget; and
4. Council make the following declarations regarding rates and charges for the period commencing on 1 July 2025 and concluding on 30 June 2026:

A) Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 158, 161 and 162 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, these remain saved provisions under the 1989 Act), the Wellington Shire Council hereby resolves to declare that the amount it intends to raise by rates and annual service charges is \$75.0M:

Type of Rates or charge	\$'000
General Rate:	65,636
Garbage Charge:	6,274
Waste Infrastructure Charge:	2,170
State Government EPA Levy Charge:	564
Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge:	16

- B)
- (1) It be further declared that, subject to paragraph 4 of this Part, the general rate be raised through the application of differential rates.
 - (2) A rate in the dollar of 0.003530 be specified as the general rate (subject to final valuation outcomes).
 - (3) It be confirmed that the general rate for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined so that the amount payable be the Capital Improved Value multiplied by the rate in the dollar of 0.003530 (subject to final valuation outcomes)
 - (4)
 - a) It be recorded that Council considers that a differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions.
 - b) A differential rate be declared for that rateable land having the characteristics specified below, which characteristics will form the criteria for the differential rate so declared:
 - (i) Farm Land:
Means any land that:
Is "Farm Land" within the meaning of Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960 (paras a) and b)) and other criteria as defined by Council in c) hereunder
 - a) that is not less than 2 hectares in area; and
 - b) that is used primarily for grazing (including agistment), dairying, pig-farming, poultry-farming, fish-farming, tree-farming, bee-keeping, viticulture, horticulture, fruit-growing or the growing of crops of any kind or for any combination of those activities; and
 - c) where the ratepayer is a Primary Producer with any evidence/ruling confirmed by the Australian Taxation Office, *registered ABN and business plan.*

C) Garbage Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$295.00 be declared for the collection and disposal of garbage in respect of Residential premises to which the service is available – whether, or not, the owner or occupier of any such premises avails themselves of the service.**

D) Waste Infrastructure Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge be declared for the development of Landfills, Recycling facilities, Transfer Stations and the rehabilitation of Landfill sites, and provision of facilities for ongoing monitoring of landfills, to ensure that Council can continue to provide a waste disposal service.**
- (2) The charge be \$70.00 for each property in respect of which a municipal charge may be levied. This charge will not apply to properties identified as being within the Ninety Mile Beach Restructure Plan Stages 7 – 22, with the exception of those properties with an existing dwelling, where the charge will still apply.**

E) EPA Levy Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$26.50 be declared to cover the costs levied by the State Government Environment Protection Authority on the operation of landfills, not otherwise recouped.**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property to which a Garbage Charge is applied, at the rate of one EPA Levy Charge for each Garbage Charge.**

F) Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$641.80 be declared for wastewater availability in respect of Residential and Commercial premises in the township of Boisdale, to contribute towards the costs of operation and management of the Boisdale Common Effluent System (the System).**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property which is connected to the System, at the rate of one charge per tenement connected.**

G) Cultural and Recreational Land:

- (1) The amount of \$83,500 (excluding service charges) be declared as payable in accordance with Section 4 of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963, having regard to the services provided by the Council in relation to such lands and the benefit to the community derived from this recreational land.**

H) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, this remains as a saved provision under the 1989 Act), Council resolves to declare a Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for conservation purposes.

- (1) Council considers that this rebate will ensure that the biodiversity values of the land will be protected for the benefit of the broader community.**

- (2) The rebate will apply only to the land that is affected by a covenant as described in the covenant document.
- (3) The rebate will be applied at \$15 per hectare, with a minimum rebate of \$100 and a maximum equal to the annual general rate on the property for that portion of land.
- (4) Conditions apply as per Council's Policy No. 4.1.11 – Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for Conservation Purposes.

CARRIED

12.3. INTENTION TO DISPLAY DRAFT REVENUE AND RATING PLAN 2025-29

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER CORPORATE FINANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council undertake a community engagement process for the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-29, as attached, for the period 7 May 2025 to 4 June 2025.

COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That Council undertake a community engagement process for the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-29, as attached, for the period 7 May 2025 to 4 June 2025.

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

13.1. RESPONSE TO PETITION - MANNS BEACH

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER BUILT ENVIRONMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to write to the head petitioner advising that Council will commence engagement with property owners on Fisher Street, Wight Street, David Street and Fry Street Manns Beach to progress a street upgrade project through a special charge scheme in line with Council's Residential Road and Street Construction Plan.

COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to write to the head petitioner advising that Council will commence engagement with property owners on Fisher Street, Wight Street, David Street and Fry Street Manns Beach to progress a street upgrade project through a special charge scheme in line with Council's Residential Road and Street Construction Plan.

CARRIED

14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

14.1. AMENDMENT C113 (CORRECTIONS) - REMOVAL OF PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY IN ROSEDALE AND HEYFIELD

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the removal of the Public Acquisition Overlay – Schedule 2 (PAO2) applied to land (in part) at properties adjacent to the commercial area on Prince Street, Rosedale and properties between Macfarlane Street, Temple Street and Pearson Street, Heyfield from the Wellington Planning Scheme on the basis that they are redundant and therefore no longer required for their originally intended purpose - refer to Attachments 14.1.1 - Rosedale Maps and 14.1.2 – Heyfield Maps.

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / COUNCILLOR WELLS

That Council support the removal of the Public Acquisition Overlay – Schedule 2 (PAO2) applied to land (in part) at properties adjacent to the commercial area on Prince Street, Rosedale and properties between Macfarlane Street, Temple Street and Pearson Street, Heyfield from the Wellington Planning Scheme on the basis that they are redundant and therefore no longer required for their originally intended purpose - refer to Attachments 14.1.1 - Rosedale Maps and 14.1.2 – Heyfield Maps.

CARRIED

15. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS

Gallery comments are an opportunity for members of the public to raise any particular matter they wish. This allows those in the gallery to speak directly to Councillors but is not a forum designed for open discussion or debate. We will listen respectfully to what you have to say and make the commitment that if your query requires a written response, we will advise you that a response will be forthcoming, and a copy of that response will be circulated to all Councillors.

This is not a forum for members of the public to lodge complaints against individuals, including Councillors and staff, particularly as that individual gets no public right of reply to any matter raised. We take complaints seriously, and in line with the guidance from the Victorian Ombudsman and the local Government Inspectorate, we request that any specific complaint against an individual be put in writing. This way, your concern can be properly dealt with while ensuring fairness to all parties concerned.

If you wish to speak, we remind you that this part of the meeting is being recorded and broadcast on our website. Council's official Minutes will record that you have spoken to Council and the subject you spoke to Council about but will not record specific comments. We ask you to state your name in full, where you are from, and you have three minutes.

ONLINE COMMENTS

NIL

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

VERONICA BARNES, ROSEDALE – addressed the Council to explain she had a fall last Tuesday on the footpath outside the Memorial Hall and hoped for something to be done about the footpath. Veronica explained that after speaking with a Council officer, she has since found out that Council does not maintain this area, but she will arrange to send an email with some photos of the area.

Mayor Rossetti thanked Veronica for letting the Council know and confirmed that she will be put in touch with the people that run the Memorial Hall.

16. IN CLOSED SESSION

16.1 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

1. That the meeting be closed to the public to consider confidential information pursuant to section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 and defined in section 3(1) as involving private commercial information which if released, would unreasonably expose current business, commercial or financial undertakings to disadvantage and personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.
2. The grounds for designation under section 3(1)(g)(ii) have been made as the information is deemed confidential to protect the commercial negotiations.

CARRIED

The live streaming of this Council meeting came to a close at 5.27pm.

IN CLOSED SESSION

16.2 GLASS AND MIXED RECYCLING PROCESSING CONTRACT

COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR FOAT

Details redacted.

CARRIED

16.3. WEST SALE AIRPORT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR FOAT

Details redacted.

CARRIED

16.4 COUNCILLOR LEAVE

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / COUNCILLOR LOWE

Details redacted.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR LOWE

Details redacted.

CARRIED

16.5 MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR FOAT

That Council move into open session and ratify the decision made in closed session.

CARRIED

Meeting declared closed at: 5.32pm.