



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 15 July 2025, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 15 July 2025.

Cr Scott Rossetti (Mayor)	David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Cr Cindy Madeley (Deputy Mayor)	Carly Bloomfield, Acting General Manager Corporate Services
Cr Edward Lowe (Online)	Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development
Cr Carmel Ripper	Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment
Cr Garry Stephens	Kim Salleh, Manager Customer and Communications
Cr John Tatterson	Catie Thomson, Governance Officer
Cr Geoff Wells	

APOLOGIES

Cr Catherine Bannerman
Cr Liz Foat

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
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1. APOLOGIES

COUNCILLOR FOAT
COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN

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 GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 July 2025.</i>	
COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR LOWE	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 July 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
NIL			

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNCILLOR MADELEY acknowledged NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week 2025 which was celebrated around the Shire and Australia last week. This is an incredibly important time to recognise and celebrate the history, culture and achievements of aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. There was a wide range of events that took place across the region which highlighted both celebration and truth telling, bringing the community together through ceremony, song and story.

In Sale, Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation hosted a NAIDOC Week celebration attended by the Mayor. Yarram hosted two separate events, one held at the Yarram Memorial Park and the other at the Yarram and District Health Service, the latter event involving a smoking ceremony, traditional dance, flag raising and a community BBQ.

Across the week, local individuals were recognized through the NAIDOC Week awards which honoured those that have made significant contributions to culture, education and reconciliation in our region. At the Gippsland Art Gallery, First Nations artist Dominique White delivered several inspiring workshops.

Councillor Madeley thanked all who organised and attended the events across the Shire, noting that such events make the community stronger.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS acknowledged the unveiling ceremony at the Yarram Cenotaph held on 5 July, organised by the Yarram and District Historical Society and the Yarram RSL. A plaque was unveiled in memory of the members of the 2/22 Battalion, also known as Lark Force, from World War II. Councillor Stephens provided historical context for the 2/22 Battalion which was formed mainly in Gippsland, but when the Japanese invaded in January 1942, most of the garrison were captured.

There were 12 Yarram men who were part of the 2/22 Battalion, six died on the *Montevideo Maru*, one was executed and five managed to escape and make their way home. The plaque is on permanent display at the Yarram Cenotaph, in remembrance of the service and sacrifices made in World War II, with many family members of soldiers from the 2/22 Battalion still living around Yarram and district.

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. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MAYOR SCOTT ROSSETTI

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for June 2025.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR WELLS

That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for June 2025.

CARRIED

11. DELEGATES REPORT

MAYOR ROSSETTI in conjunction with David Morcom - Chief Executive Officer, and Andrew Pomeroy - General Manager Development, met yesterday with the Hon. Lily D'Ambosio MP, Minister for Climate Action, Energy and Resources and the State Electricity Commission, following a letter sent to the Minister based on a motion regarding the Council's position on underground transmission cables from offshore wind farms.

Updates were provided to the Minister on concerns around Seaspray with the visual amenity of the wind farm and the points of view from the Seaspray Community were heavily pressed with the Minister. Whilst there may not be a lot of success in changing to underground cabling, the case was nevertheless expressed and, at the very least, the 'tie lines' along the Coast would be a high priority.

Payment in lieu of rates was also discussed, as Wellington is the one renewable energy zone that does not have an automatic revenue stream coming through to local government. The challenge is that if there are a lot of new requirements for infrastructure for the impacted communities, funding either comes from a revenue source like wind farms, or it comes from the rate payers. Council thinks it is appropriate to have some sort of rate revenue coming in from the wind farms to support the work that must be done in the communities to support these workers coming into the community and also the impact on the infrastructure throughout the Shire.

Mayor Rosetti noted that Council are also having these conversations at both State and Federal Government level. The challenge is that Council does not want to be impacted in the same way as Wonthaggi was during the construction of the desalination plant, when a lot of the locals bore the impact of workers coming into town, driving up rents and pushing the most vulnerable out of their housing.

In conjunction with the South Gippsland Shire and GLAWAC (Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation), Council has an application in for the federal rPPP fund (Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program) for \$4.7M to try to do the work to understand the requirements arising from the impacts of offshore wind along the entire coast that is impacted by offshore wind. Whilst not a State Government issue, the Minister is supportive of the application and keen to see things progress.

Finally, they also spoke about the landowners impacted by overhead cabling.

It was a broad conversation and a good hearing with the Minister who was very happy with the support the community has given to the renewable energy zone and Wellington Shire is supportive of continuing to move forward with support for renewable projects.

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for June 2025.

COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR WELLS

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for June 2025.

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

13.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 23 June to 6 July 2025.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 23 June to 6 July 2025.

CARRIED

14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

14.1. QUARTERLY STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING UPDATE REPORT, SECOND QUARTER 2025

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the second quarterly update report, April to June 2025, on the strategic land use planning work program included in Attachment 14.1.1 - Current Strategic Planning Work.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

That Council receive the second quarterly update report, April to June 2025, on the strategic land use planning work program included in Attachment 14.1.1 - Current Strategic Planning Work.

CARRIED

14.2. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS MAY 2025

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 May and 31 May 2025.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 May and 31 May 2025.

CARRIED

15. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

15.1. PLACE NAMES COMMITTEE MEETING - JUNE MINUTES

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

For Council to receive the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 10 June 2025 and to consider the recommendations from that meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 10 June 2025;***
- 2. Approve the proposal to rename a section of George Street, Maffra, noting resident submissions on the proposed renaming that the five affected property owners;***
 - i) Be given the opportunity to vote on a new name with the options of Edward Street or Riggall Street (with Riggall being a name taken from the approved names register); and***
 - ii) That Council Officers register the selected name with the highest number of votes with Geographic Names Victoria.***
- 3. Note that Council officers will undertake a community engagement exercise with the intention of gathering naming submissions regarding the proposal to name the park and carpark associated with the Port of Sale Boat Ramp off Park Street Sale.***
- 4. Approve the CEO to write to The Hon Nick Staikos MP to;***
 - i) Decline the request to undertake a place naming and public art audit due to the time commitment required to complete it accurately; and***
 - ii) Inform the minister that Wellington Shire Council considers gender equality and indigenous recognition as a priority in road and place naming.***

5. **Approve Council officers contacting the two affected properties on the road labelled “Unknown #49” off Dargo Street, Sale and request them to choose a name for the road from the Approved Names Register; and**
- i) That this be confirmed in writing; and**
 - ii) That the selected name be registered with Geographic Names Victoria.**

COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 10 June 2025;**
- 2. Approve the proposal to rename a section of George Street, Maffra, noting resident submissions on the proposed renaming that the five affected property owners;**
 - i) Be given the opportunity to vote on a new name with the options of Edward Street or Riggall Street (with Riggall being a name taken from the approved names register); and**
 - ii) That Council Officers register the selected name with the highest number of votes with Geographic Names Victoria.**
- 3. Note that Council officers will undertake a community engagement exercise with the intention of gathering naming submissions regarding the proposal to name the park and carpark associated with the Port of Sale Boat Ramp off Park Street Sale.**
- 4. Approve the CEO to write to The Hon Nick Staikos MP to;**
 - i) Decline the request to undertake a place naming and public art audit due to the time commitment required to complete it accurately; and**
 - ii) Inform the minister that Wellington Shire Council considers gender equality and indigenous recognition as a priority in road and place naming.**
- 5. Approve Council officers contacting the two affected properties on the road labelled “Unknown #49” off Dargo Street, Sale and request them to choose a name for the road from the Approved Names Register; and**
 - i) That this be confirmed in writing; and**
 - ii) That the selected name be registered with Geographic Names Victoria.**

CARRIED

16. 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

MAYOR ROSSETTI noted he believes there are a number of people in the gallery that wish to speak to the proposed amendments to the Community Local Law 2021 amendment and also encouraged all interested persons to respond to the ["Your Wellington, Your Say"](#) website where public comment and submissions are accepted. Alternatively, a letter may be written to the Chief Executive Officer. The closing date for submissions is 31 July 2025.

LAURIE PARK – expressed concerns about the cost of relabelling toilets for “all gender”, as well as biological men entering female toilets as this law will enable perpetrators and those with ill intent to “take advantage of the law” by pretending to identify as female to access female toilets to commit crimes against women and children.

HEIDI McIVOR, WURRUK – spoke about her personal experience for which this local law brings back anxiety and trauma and how this local law will give predatory men access to women’s only spaces and result in women and children avoiding Council public amenities for fear of safety.

JOANNE BERRILL - there is an increase in sexual crimes and paedophilia, and this law enables for perpetrators, noting the recent charges against Joshua Brown. This gives cisgender males the ability to pose as transgender women and perpetrate via videos and recordings. Joanne wonders why Australia would follow a similar path with laws that are already proving harmful in other countries.

JULIAN McIVOR – requested that his objection to the Community Local Law public amenities change be formally noted. Women and children should be able to access female only spaces for safety and security and he suggests unisex or gender neutral amenities as a solution, such as what already exists in some parts of Sale, including the facilities near the clocktower and in the Sale Botanical Gardens.

COREY SIEBEL – referenced a possible solution that there could be unisex bathrooms operating alongside single sex bathrooms. Corey referenced the special measures under the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* where it states it is necessary to maintain safety for vulnerable groups and that single sex bathrooms can be maintained if there is a unisex bathroom available.

EMILY BRAITHWAITE – questioned whether a female space is truly a female space if it can be accessed by men. Emily shared a negative personal experience whilst in a public amenity in encountering a male. Council should have a duty to listen to the public and ensure women’s spaces are respected and protected.

KRISTINE AGNOLETO – there should be a third bathroom option to protect all persons. Similar to the disabled toilets, we could introduce unisex or gender neutral amenities which also helps protect transgender and vulnerable people. Considerations also include the

emotional and spiritual implications for Muslim, Jewish and Christian women traumatised by removal of head coverings such as the hijab in a female amenity when exposed to males.

The Mayor thanked all presenters and again encouraged lodgement of public submissions via the “Your Wellington Your Say” website. Wellington Shire wants to obtain the views of the public and will take the submissions into account.

The Chief Executive Officer confirmed that a change to a Council local law must be subject to public consultation. Council has received legal advice in relation to the specific clause around facilities, as Council had similar questions. Council is happy to share this information, as it is important to be transparent about this.

17. IN CLOSED SESSION

17.1. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON

1. That the meeting be closed to the public to consider confidential information pursuant to section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 and defined in section 3(1) as involving 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 personal information

CARRIED

IN CLOSED SESSION

The live streaming of this Council meeting came to a close at 5.52pm.

17.2. CEO 2025/26 KEY PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR RIPPER

Details redacted.

CARRIED

17.3. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

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

CARRIED

Meeting declared closed at: 5.55pm.