



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 5 November 2025, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 5 November 2025.

Cr Scott Rossetti (Mayor)

Cr Cindy Madeley (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Catherine Bannerman

Cr Liz Foat

Cr Edward Lowe

Cr Garry Stephens (Online)

Cr Carmel Ripper

Cr John Tatterson

Cr Geoff Wells

Chris Hastie, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development

Billie-Jo Thorburn, A/Manager Customer & Communications

Catie Thomson, Governance Officer

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
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COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public gallery should note that the Council records and publishes Council meetings via YouTube to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Wellington community. These recordings are also published and archived on Council's Website for viewing by the public. Recordings may be used for publicity or information purposes.

Members of the public in attendance at the Council meeting who wish to communicate with the Council regarding an agenda item or any other matter should advise the Mayor, ideally prior to the meeting starting, to ensure that their submission is called at the appropriate time during the meeting.

Would gallery visitors, Councillors and invited online attendees please ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together to make a difference. We listen and lead to provide quality services that improve life for all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"Wellington Shire Council acknowledges our offices are located on the traditional lands of the Gunaikurnai nation. We pay our deep respects to their Elders past, present and future and acknowledge their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their land and waters."

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 GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 October 2025.</i>	
COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR WELLS	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 October 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 FOAT acknowledged the Sale and District Agricultural Show (“Sale Show”) Committee Afternoon Tea attended on Saturday 1 November. It was a wonderful celebration of community spirit and long-standing dedication. Richard Crook, the Agricultural Society Committee President, proudly spoke about the Sale Show, now celebrating 160 years, and reflected on its history and continued importance to the district. Alongside commentary on the continued thriving success of the carrot cake competition, Richard expressed thanks to the John Leslie Foundation whose funding has made possible the re-cladding of the main building for the Sale Show and addition of a verandah and installed flood lights. The next project for which they hope to secure a grant is for installation of new show case windows in the pavilion which will further enhance facilities and overall ease of use for the stewards in their various presentations.

A highlight of the afternoon was the John French Award presentations; an award that recognises outstanding service for individuals who contribute to the smooth running and success of the Sale Show and it’s grounds. The award went to 2 deserving recipients this year; Chris Heib for his technical expertise, operations and achievement of successful connectivity around the grounds over the entire weekend and Theo Smolenaars for his generous contribution of labour, skills, and donation of materials for projects around the grounds.

Two gold life memberships were also awarded to 2 long term equestrian competitors, Michael Kelly and Wally Ingram. The day concluded with the announcement of, and address by, Abbey Walsh as the 2025 Rural Ambassador whose address focussed on the value of volunteering for volunteers and the broader community alike. Abbey will go on to represent the Sale Show and undertake her various ambassador activities.

It was a really wonderful afternoon celebrating dedication, community involvement and the proud 160 year history of the Sale Show.

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

NIL

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

10. DELEGATES REPORT

Councillor Bannerman provided an update on the Timber Towns Victoria Forum and Annual General Meeting (AGM) held last week and hosted in Sale and expressed much gratitude and respect to the Economic Development Officer, Mark Coleman, who organised the event with the able assistance of Rachael Healy, the Timber Towns Victoria Secretary. Councillor Bannerman thanked Mark and Rachael for their organisation as it was a fabulous event. Everyone had a fantastic time and learnt a lot

Timber Towns Victoria is a local government association that has been running for 40 years advocating at State and Federal Government level, an advocacy group representing the vested interest/s of the timber industry.

As part of the event, there were visits to various sites to showcase what Wellington Shire has as a timber industry. The first visit was to the ASH (Australian Sustainable Hardwoods) timber mill in Heyfield. There is much innovation and ASH continue to go from strength to strength and grow their employment base through recruitment of many locals. With every setback and difficulty faced over the past few years, particularly with the shutdown of the hardwood timber industry, ASH timber mill continue to 'pivot from strength to strength' with some of the projects/activities they create with manufactured timber.

Next was a visit to the HVP Gippsland Plantation between Rosedale and Longford where they were shown the harvesting process.

Next was a trip to Yarram with a beautiful lunch hosted by, and at, the Yarram Country Club.

Following lunch was a visit to Radial Timber in Yarram, Alberton Timber and the AKD Sawmills. There were a lot of interesting things to observe in these places based around similar concepts on wood production for human use, but each with their own individual 'niche' in the market. It was really interesting to see the innovations around wooden logs up to 30cm in diameter getting stripped into paper thin sheets of wood ready for pressing into other manufactured wood items.

It is great to see such enthusiastic and passionate people in the Shire who are looking to new technologies and opportunities to innovate with.

11. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

11.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 13 October to 26 October 2025.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 13 October to 26 October 2025.

CARRIED

12. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

12.1. AMENDMENT C123 (WELLINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION)

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Request the Minister for Planning to authorise Council, as the planning authority, to prepare Amendment C123well (Wellington Growth Management Strategy Implementation) as per Attachment 12.1.1 pursuant to Section 8A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and proceed to a period of formal public exhibition.*

COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN

That Council:

1. Request the Minister for Planning to authorise Council, as the planning authority, to prepare Amendment C123well (Wellington Growth Management Strategy Implementation) as per Attachment 12.1.1 pursuant to Section 8A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and proceed to a period of formal public exhibition.

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

13.1. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LANDSLIDE REPAIRS (SOUTHERN AREA) PACKAGE 1

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential attachment 13.1.2 2025-2027 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 1; and*
2. *Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 13.1.2 2025-2027 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 1, was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 24 October 2025 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.*

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential attachment 13.1.2 2025-207 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 1; and**
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 13.1.2 2025-207 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 1, was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 24 October 2025 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.**

CARRIED

The Mayor announced the successful tenderer as McInness Earthmoving Pty Ltd.

13.2. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LANDSLIDE REPAIRS (SOUTHERN AREA) PACKAGE 2

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential attachment 13.2.2 2025-208 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 2; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 13.2.2 2025-208 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 2, was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 24 October 2025 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential attachment 13.2.2 2025-208 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 2; and**
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 13.2.2 2025-208 - Landslide Rectification Various Locations Package 2, was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 24 October 2025 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.**

CARRIED

The Mayor announced the successful tenderer as Whelans Group Investments Pty Ltd.

14. 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

NIL

Mayor Rossetti addressed Council prior to closure of the Council Meeting with a thank you as this Council Meeting represents the last one that Mayor Rossetti will chair as Mayor. Mayor Rossetti is wishing the best for whom is voted in as Mayor at the next Council meeting in 2 weeks as Mayor Rossetti does not intend to stand again for next year and believes in fostering a stronger Council through the sharing of Council leadership roles.

Mayor Rossetti reflected on some of Wellington Shire Council's achievements during his term as Mayor, including the successful transition and rebuild of the Council with the introduction of 5 new Councillors, the opening of the new Aqua Energy facility and the success of the Middle of Everywhere campaign which continues to attract positive feedback.

Mayor Rossetti thanked his fellow Councillors, the Deputy Mayor, CEO and CMT, the Wellington Shire Communications team, the several hundred employees of the Wellington Shire Council and the community who regularly engage with Council.

One of the Mayor's proudest moments is to see the state of the relationships around this very Council chamber whilst at the same time seeing the maintenance of a wide range of diverse views and opinions that represent the different sections of the community. This is a credit to all.

It has been an incredible privilege and honour to serve the community in this role.

Meeting declared closed at: 5.23pm.

The live streaming of this Council meeting came to a close at 5.24pm.

15. IN CLOSED SESSION

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider confidential matters under section 66(5)(b) as defined by section 3(1) being:

- a) Council business information***
- b) Security information***
- c) Land use planning information***
- d) Law enforcement information***
- e) Legal privileged information***
- f) Personal information***
- g) Private commercial information***
- h) Confidential meeting information***
- i) Internal arbitration information***
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information***
- k) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information***
- l) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989***

IN CLOSED SESSION

NIL