



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 5 May 2026, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 5 May 2026.

Cr Cindy Madeley (Mayor)

Cr Liz Foat (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Catherine Bannerman

Cr Scott Rossetti

Cr Edward Lowe

Cr Garry Stephens

Cr Carmel Ripper

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

Barry Hearsey, Acting General Manager Development

Catherine Hicks, Communications Advisor

Courtney Smart, Corporate Governance Officer

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TABLE OF CONTENTS

0.1. TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
1. APOLOGIES	4
2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST.....	4
3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S	4
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 MOTION	4
7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS	4
7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS.....	4
8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE.....	6
9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE	6
10. DELEGATES REPORT.....	6
11. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES.....	7
11.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS.....	7
11.2. CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION POLICY	7
11.3. S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION (ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017).....	8
12. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT	8
12.1. DISABILITY INCLUSION AND ACCESS PLAN.....	8
13. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS	9
14. IN CLOSED SESSION	10

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

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Gunaikurnai people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and acknowledge their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their land and waters.

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY

We recognise the entire Wellington Shire community, including visitors to our shire, for their collective efforts in protecting and preserving the land, water, air, and history, and for making this a better place to live and work for current and future generations.

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 April 2026.</i>
COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR RIPPER
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 April 2026.
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 BANNERMAN attended and acknowledged the Anzac Day service in Rosedale and extended thanks to the Rosedale RSL Returned Services League members and volunteers for months of preparation. The dawn service was well attended and the parade, later in the day, attracted people from across the community spectrum who all came together to pay respects to those who sacrificed to provide a peaceful country and town.

Councillor Bannerman also thanked Florist Gump, Rosedale for creating and providing the beautiful wreaths for the day.

COUNCILLOR WELLS attended and acknowledged the Seaspray Anzac Day service and thanked the efforts of Kaylene Wheeler, President, Seaspray Ratepayers Association, for organising the day and Father Bickley for his address. The service was well run with a large attendance. It was a beautiful and moving day.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON attended and acknowledged the Heyfield Anzac Day service. It was a terrific day with hundreds of people gathering from local primary schools, Maffra Secondary College and the Youth Council. Councillor Tattersson noted Anzac Day continues to go from strength to strength, receiving the acknowledgement it deserves for those who have served the country.

COUNCILLOR LOWE acknowledged the Maffra Anzac Day service which he attended via invitation to represent the Council. It was a deeply moving occasion. Councillor Lowe extended a thankyou to Richard Kors, President, Maffra RSL, for his leadership and dedication, and to Wing Commander Conan Brett, Commanding Officer 32 Squadron, for delivering an address on behalf of the Royal Australian Air Force. It was wonderful to see such a strong community turnout which 'speaks volumes' about the continuing respect people hold for veterans and service personnel. The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) fly-over was a powerful and fitting tribute adding to the significance of the day.

Councillor Lowe also attended and acknowledged the Shakespeare Festival held in Stratford on 3 May 2026 which included stalls, medieval displays, live singing and music, blacksmithing, historic shields, medieval games and face painting. The event brought history to life and created a fantastic atmosphere for families and visitors alike. Councillor Lowe encouraged the community to attend and support the event.

Councillor Madeley agreed with Councillor Lowe that it is a fantastic event and acknowledged her attendance for the closing night of the play *Much Ado About Nothing* on Saturday 2 May. The performance was sold out, consistent with previous nights. The Shakespeare Festival will run for the next three weeks and includes additional activities such as a Mother's Day high tea. Thanks were extended to those involved in delivering the event for Stratford.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER acknowledged the Port Albert Anzac Day dawn service which she attended at 6.00am, as an ex-service woman, an event which first began 15 years ago initiated by the Port Albert Progress Association, growing from six attendees to approximately 200 today.

The fire brigade and the Traralgon air training corps were acknowledged as instrumental in their contributions to the ceremony. It was very moving to watch the sun rise over the sea in Port Albert which brought a significant expression of the memory of what it must have been like in Gallipoli.

Following the dawn service, Councillor Ripper attended and acknowledged the Stratford daytime service with the Youth Mayor where they laid a wreath. Thanks were extended to the RSL members for preparations, the RSL ladies for creating the wreaths, and the Council gardeners for their very special efforts in presenting the Port Albert and Stratford sites to a high standard.

Councillor Madeley thanked Councillor Ripper for attending two services across the Wellington Shire, noting these two events were held “almost at opposite ends of the Shire”. Councillors sought to attend as many Anzac Day services as possible. There were more than 11 services.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS attended and acknowledged the Yarram Anzac Day service and thanked the Yarram RSL, including Karen Rogers, as Secretary and Rick Rogers as OAM President of the Yarram RSL, for their excellent organisation of the event. There was a march from the end of the street to the Cenotaph with the RAAF honour guard in attendance and many wreaths were laid. It was great to see the community supporting Anzac Day and the service personnel.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY acknowledged and attended three Anzac Day services; first the dawn service in Sale which attracted an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 attendees, followed by the early morning service at the War Graves at the Sale Cemetery, also well attended and a very poignant and moving service and third, the march down the main street of Sale which finished at the Memorial Hall, also well attended. Thanks were extended to the community “for coming out in force” to honour and commemorate Anzac Day and to the Sale RSL for their work on the Sale services.

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

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN provided an update on Timber Towns Victoria. Timber Towns Victoria is developing a list of priorities for state government representatives ahead of the election with a focus on promoting roads and bridges, Artificial Intelligence fire camera technology and national forestry policy reform. Councillor Bannerman will be part of a delegation that will go to Melbourne on 13 May 2026 for the purposes of pre-election advocacy.

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN also provided an update on the Rural Councils Victoria Committee. Rural Councils Victoria are undertaking advocacy at the State and Federal Government levels ahead of the November state election to push for a \$1 billion fund to support regional and rural councils. This will reduce competition with metropolitan councils over individual grants and provide a bit of security and certainty, going forward, to enable for growth in the region.

Rural Councils Victoria have also raised roads as a key priority, with a call for improved delivery of the State Government’s road program and timely works.

11. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

11.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 13 April 2026 to 26 April 2026.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 13 April 2026 to 26 April 2026.

CARRIED

11.2. CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION POLICY

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve and adopt the revised CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy, as attached.

The CEO left the Council Meeting at 5:17pm

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR FOAT

That Council approve and adopt the revised CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy, as attached.

CARRIED

The CEO returned to the Council Meeting at 5:19pm

11.3. S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION (ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017)

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017)' as set out in the instrument.*
2. *That the instrument come into force immediately upon being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke the instrument.*
3. *That Council revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017) dated 18 June 2025.*

COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

1. That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017)' as set out in the instrument.
2. That the instrument come into force immediately upon being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke the instrument.
3. That Council revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017) dated 18 June 2025.

CARRIED

12. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

12.1. DISABILITY INCLUSION AND ACCESS PLAN

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2026-2030 as the operational strategy to continually improve Wellington Shire Council's access, equity, and inclusion for people living with disability.

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / COUNCILLOR FOAT

That Council adopt the Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2026-2030 as the operational strategy to continually improve Wellington Shire Council's access, equity, and inclusion for people living with disability.

CARRIED

13. 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

SARA KEIFER – Wants to understand why the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bin collection process is being changed when it has “been working for everyone” for a long time.

CLINTON J BLUNT – Wants to know if there is an option to “opt out” of FOGO or get a corresponding rate reduction.

LEWIS BOLTON – Queries why East Gippsland Shire can have a policy that allows for opt in or out and keeping a weekly red bin that can alternate the FOGO with the recycling bin and whether the consultation process has been a “tick box exercise”

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

REBECCA AND KRIS GRATTON – Residents of Myrtlebank - Presented to Council with concerns regarding VicRoad's proposed upgrade to the Fulham–Myrtlebank Road and Princes Highway intersection. Of the 4-5 Alignment options that were presented 10 years ago, VicRoads have determined a preference for the Alignment Option that results in the road running through their backyard as well as the backyard of their neighbours. This proposed road would be 40m from their kitchen window and approximately 20m from their neighbour's child's bedroom window.

Whilst Rebecca and Kris support an upgrade to the intersection, there are concerns with the current Alignment Option chosen by VicRoads due to the significant impacts on affected properties, particularly given the alternative north-western option where the road could, instead, run through the existing road reserve and a rural paddock. Previous impacts have typically been limited to easements, nature strips or driveways and there is no local precedent for an intersection upgrade through residential backyards.

Rebecca and Kris are seeking assistance from Council to obtain feedback from VicRoads on the rationale for this Alignment Option and whether their preferred north-western option be considered.

Rebecca and Kris acknowledged support from Danny O'Brien MP and the Hon. Darren Chester MP in seeking further information and advocating for an alternative alignment.

Meeting declared closed at: 5:29pm

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

14. 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