



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 7 July 2026, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 7 July 2026.

Cr Cindy Madeley (Mayor)

Cr Catherine Bannerman

Cr Scott Rossetti

Cr Edward Lowe

Cr Garry Stephens

Cr Carmel Ripper

Cr Geoff Wells

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer

Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services

Renae Littlejohn, General Manager Development

Ray Weber, Manager Assets and Projects

Claudia Oswald, Communications Advisor

Catie Thomson, Senior Governance and Reporting Officer

APOLOGIES

Cr Liz Foat

Cr John Tatterson

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

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Gunaikurnai people. 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.

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

COUNCILLOR FOAT (Leave of Absence)
COUNCILLOR TATTERSON (Leave of Absence)

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 16 June 2026.</i>	
COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 16 June 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 LOWE acknowledged the Victorian Transport Association Forum which he attended on 24 June 2026 at the Greyhounds in Sale. This was a very informative event. In attendance was WHG Technologies who provide dash cams for trucks and have developed a new piece of safety equipment which integrates into the smartwatch to notify the driver and company when a driver is likely to fall asleep within the next 1 to 8 minutes. Other items discussed included hydrogen nodes where trucks will be running on hydrogen, along with different forms of electric transport vehicles for the heavy transport industry. Other attendees who presented at the event included the Department of Transport, Victoria Police Heavy Vehicle Unit, Transport Accident Commission (TAC), the National Heavy Vehicle regulator; WorkSafe Victoria, the NHVR auditor (National Heavy Vehicle Regulator). One takeaway for Councillor Lowe was that if the Victorian Police Heavy Vehicle Unit pulled over a truck, there is a 40% chance the truck carries defects and that there are 45,000 people currently receiving injury support from the TAC.

Councillor Lowe also acknowledged the Sale Ambulance Auxiliary event which hosted presentation of the movie, 'Toy Story 5' and was attended by Councillor Lowe and his family on 21 June 2026.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS acknowledged the passing of Peter Craighead who died on 15 June 2026 and paid tribute to Peter's remarkable contribution to health services in Gippsland and to the Wellington Shire Council. Gippsland has 'lost a giant of regional healthcare' through the passing of Peter Craighead. Peter was highly regarded and his leadership, vision and commitment to community across 3 decades shaped health services in Gippsland.

Peter came to Yarram in 1989 and served at Latrobe Regional Health (LRH) until quite recently. Peter held previous positions as Chief Executive Officer at the Yarram and District Health Service and Central Gippsland Health.

Peter championed the delivery of high quality healthcare for the region's communities. Everywhere he went Peter "built things", taking on, for example, the major building program at LRH, and also turning the position of LRH from one of severe financial crisis into a very strong organisation. Peter was also an independent member of the Wellington Shire Council's Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) for many years and served as the Chair of the ARC Committee for a period of 3-4 years.

In Peter's memorial service held today at the Regent Theatre in Yarram, it was acknowledged that Peter was respected not only for his professional achievements, but for the way he led with integrity, determination and a deep commitment to the community in which he served.

Councillor Stephens extended heartfelt condolences to his family, wife Karen, Emma and her husband Paul, and to Katie, Sam and Peter's first grandchild, Leo, who was born the same day of Peter's passing.

Peter will be sadly missed, not only by others but also personally for Councillor Stephens as Peter was a very good friend for many years.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY acknowledged the 2026 LGPro Excellence Award for Wellington Shire Council and East Gippsland Council's Innovative Management of the Shared Services Initiative – Rural Council's Records Management Transformation. The award recognises this shared services collaboration as a Council "first of it's kind" in the delivery of a shared cloud-based records management system, improving efficiency, cyber security and cost effectiveness while demonstrating rural council's capacity to lead innovation. It is great to see Wellington Shire Council and East Gippsland Council being recognised for this work in the shared services space. At present, Wellington Shire Council and East Gippsland Council are the only Councils in Victoria, and possibly Australia, that are exploring shared services. This is fantastic recognition. Mayor Madeley extended a thank you to all teams involved in delivery that has led to this recognition and award.

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 a brief update on the Rural Councils of Victoria (RCV) Committee which convened on 18 June 2026.

There was a fond farewell of the outgoing Chief Executive Officer, Darren Fuzzard, who has provided 7 years of service and will be a "big set of shoes to fill".

A key takeaway from the Committee meeting included the finalisation of an advertising campaign in readiness for the upcoming election. The slogan for the advertising campaign is 'do gooder', a campaign focussed on asking the State Government to do a lot better in funding local infrastructure in rural and regional areas.

11. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

11.1. RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 15 June 2026 to 28 June 2026.</i>
COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN
That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 15 June 2026 to 28 June 2026.
CARRIED

11.2. AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the minutes in brief of the Audit & Risk Committee 27 May 2026, as attached, and the confidential Attachment 11.2.3 - Audit & Risk Committee Minutes - 27 May 2026, and Attachment 11.2.4 - Question and Answer Table – Audit and Risk Committee 27 May 2026; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 11.2.3 - Audit & Risk Committee Minutes - 27 May 2026, and Attachment 11.2.4 - Question and Answer Table – Audit and Risk Committee 27 May 2026, of this Council meeting agenda, is designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 10 June 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:***
 - e) legal privileged information; and***
 - l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.***

COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the minutes in brief of the Audit & Risk Committee 27 May 2026, as attached, and the confidential Attachment 11.2.3 - Audit & Risk Committee Minutes - 27 May 2026, and Attachment 11.2.4 - Question and Answer Table – Audit and Risk Committee 27 May 2026; and**
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 11.2.3 - Audit & Risk Committee Minutes - 27 May 2026, and Attachment 11.2.4 - Question and Answer Table – Audit and Risk Committee 27 May 2026, of this Council meeting agenda, is designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 10 June 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:**
 - e) legal privileged information; and**
 - l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

CARRIED

11.3. S11A INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987)

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)' 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 previous S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) dated 7 August 2025.*

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR LOWE

- 1. That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)' as set out in the instrument.*
- 3. 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.*
- 4. That Council revoke the previous S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) dated 7 August 2025.*

CARRIED

11.4. 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 6 May 2026.*

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / 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 6 May 2026.

CARRIED

11.5. S6 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – MEMBERS OF COUNCIL STAFF

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve that –

1. *There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
2. *The S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff come into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
3. *On the coming into force of the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff, the current S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff dated 3 March 2026 is revoked.*
4. *The duties and functions set out in the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR RIPPER

That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve that –

1. **There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.**
2. **The S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff come into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.**
3. **On the coming into force of the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff, the current S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff dated 3 March 2026 is revoked.**

4. The duties and functions set out in the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

CARRIED

12. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

12.1. STAR OF THE SOUTH OFFSHORE WINDFARM: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS – COUNCIL SUBMISSION

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Wellington Shire Council submission as attached to this report, in response to the Star of the South Offshore Wind Project's public exhibition for State and Commonwealth environmental assessment processes.*
- 2. Authorise the Manager Planning and Building to submit the Wellington Shire Council submission, as attached to this report, through the relevant online submission portals.*

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN / COUNCILLOR WELLS

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Wellington Shire Council submission as attached to this report, in response to the Star of the South Offshore Wind Project's public exhibition for State and Commonwealth environmental assessment processes.**
- 2. Authorise the Manager Planning and Building to submit the Wellington Shire Council submission, as attached to this report, through the relevant online submission portals.**

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

13.1. MULTI-PURPOSE ROAD REPAIR TRUCK (RURAL EAST)

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER BUILT ENVIRONMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the attached confidential VP509032 Contract Tender Evaluation Report of this Council Meeting Agenda for the supply and delivery of one Multi-purpose Repair Truck (Rural East) for Maffra Depot, the Rural East Road Maintenance area; and*
- 2. Note that the information contained in the attached confidential VP509032 Contract Tender Evaluation Report for the supply and delivery of one Multi-purpose Repair Truck (Rural East) for Maffra Depot, the Rural East Road Maintenance area, Restricted Assessment is designated confidential under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 23 June 2026 because they relate to the following grounds:
(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 RIPPER / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the attached confidential VP509032 Contract Tender Evaluation Report of this Council Meeting Agenda for the supply and delivery of one Multi-purpose Repair Truck (Rural East) for Maffra Depot, the Rural East Road Maintenance area; and**
- 2. Note that the information contained in the attached confidential VP509032 Contract Tender Evaluation Report for the supply and delivery of one Multi-purpose Repair Truck (Rural East) for Maffra Depot, the Rural East Road Maintenance area, Restricted Assessment is designated confidential under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 23 June 2026 because they relate to the following grounds:
(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 Chair announced the successful tenderer as Daimler Trucks for the purchase of the Fuso Fighter vehicle fitted with a Flocon body and the acceptance of the trade-in offer for plan number 20059.

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

The Chief Executive Officer, David Morcom, acknowledged the questions and comments for tonight's Council meeting, all on the topic of Waste Management and provided a summary of the 4 questions and comments, as follows:

JESSICA SMITH - Jessica raised some comments relating to the allocation of bins when there are young children and medical conditions.

CHRISTOPHER BOXALL – Christopher asks why Latrobe Valley and East Gippsland Shire can retain weekly rubbish collection with the introduction of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bins, but Wellington Shire Council has implied it was State Government policy as the reason for halving the rubbish collection and asks for confirmation as to whether FOGO is State Government policy or not?

LEWIS BOLTON – Lewis's query relates to how the new bin roster works for a 3 bedroom unit; the litres being used for the existing bin, general waste, FOGO and recycling and whether the FOGO bin can be an 'opt in' or 'opt out' option and whether the red bin can remain as a weekly service.

DAWN UR – Dawn has asked whether Wellington Shire Council can do anything to get a soft plastic collection happening in the Shire as soon as possible.

David advised responses will be forwarded to the recipients of these Council meeting questions/comments and the final responses will also be provided to all Councillors.

For Jessica Smith, David Morcom advised Councillors have received a copy of Jessica's email and confirmed that staff have today spoken directly with Jessica and understands the issues have been resolved to the satisfaction of Jessica, but will, nevertheless, follow-up to ensure matters have been resolved.

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

NIL

15. IN CLOSED SESSION

15.1. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR LOWE

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

The live streaming of this Council meeting came to a close at 5.28pm.

The Chief Executive Officer declared he will exit prior to the closed session and left Council Chambers at 5.28pm.

IN CLOSED SESSION

**15.2. IN CLOSED SESSION - CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION
COMMITTEE'S CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION**

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

Details redacted.

CARRIED



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
7 JULY 2026**

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public.

I declare that the information contained in this report **CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE'S CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs

I further declare that the circumstances of this report necessitate consideration in a meeting closed to the public pursuant to sections 66(2)(a) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Further explanation:

The grounds for designation under section 3(1)(f) have been made as the information is deemed confidential to protect the privacy and personal information about any person or their personal affairs.

.....
ARTHUR SKIPITARIS
GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
18/06/2026

15.3. IN CLOSED SESSION – LEAVE

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

Details redacted.

CARRIED

15.4. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR LOWE

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

CARRIED

Meeting declared closed at: 5.33pm.