



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 21 July 2026, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 21 July 2026.

Cr Cindy Madeley (Mayor)	David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Cr Liz Foat (Deputy Mayor)	Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services
Cr Catherine Bannerman (Online)	Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment
Cr Scott Rossetti	Renae Littlejohn, General Manager Development
Cr Edward Lowe	Billie-Jo Thorburn, Acting Manager Customer and Communications
Cr Garry Stephens (Online)	Catie Thomson, Senior Governance and Reporting Officer
Cr John Tatterson	
Cr Geoff Wells	

APOLOGIES

Cr Carmel Ripper - Apology

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 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

COUNCILLOR RIPPER

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

COUNCILLOR FOAT declared a general conflict of interest for Item 14.3 - Amendment C124Well (Gibsons Road).

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 7 July 2026.</i>	
COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR LOWE	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 7 July 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 and attended the Fulham Correctional Centre recruitment graduation ceremony with Mayor Madeley. There were 22 new recruits who took the oath to become provisional correctional officers. It was a proud moment to witness and brought back memories for Councillor Lowe of some 15 years ago when he was standing in the same position and taking the same step into corrections. Councillor Lowe extended best wishes to the new recruits for this important work and encouraged the new recruits to look out for each other, stay safe and to draw on the knowledge of those around them; to listen to this breadth of experience and knowledge and learn from those who have walked the path before them.

Councillor Lowe also acknowledged the men's breakfast held in Stratford on Saturday morning. There were 15 people in attendance who shared a good breakfast and held solid conversations around issues facing society. It was a great morning with good food, 'straight talk', and plenty of laughs. Councillor Lowe encouraged anyone interested to attend the men's breakfast held at 8.30am on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Anglican Church in Stratford – a great opportunity to connect, share a meal and enjoy some interesting conversations.

COUNCILLOR FOAT acknowledged the official opening of the North Sale Wetlands and Biodiversity Reserve which has been 10 years in the making. The Reserve was officially opened by Mayor Cindy Madeley together with Tom McIntosh MP and representatives from the Victorian government. It was attended by Councillor Foat, Councillor Ripper, Councillor Lowe and Councillor Wells. The 5 hectare reserve will play an important role in supporting growth in North Sale by helping to manage storm water and reduce flood risk and provides a wonderful new open space for the community to enjoy. This includes one kilometre of walking paths and seats along the way as well as more than 1000 wetland plants and 59 advanced trees.

The Reserve will encourage people to spend time outdoors and support health, mental health, wellbeing and connection to nature. This project received an engineering excellence award which was acknowledged through the presentation of a plaque at a previous Council meeting. It was a most enjoyable and well attended opening and a great way to celebrate this new community space in Sale.

Councillor Foat also acknowledged the volunteers session of local Maffra volunteers luncheon and afternoon tea. It was a great opportunity for the Chief Executive Officer David Morcom, Mayor Madeley, Councillor Ripper, Councillor Wells, Councillor Lowe and Councillor Foat to meet the local volunteer groups and other groups which were represented, and to thank them for their time, care and commitment given so generously to the community. What was also observed by Councillor Foat was the quiet dedication of the volunteers where "so much happens without expectation of recognition", yet their contribution strengthens the community spirit of towns and makes a difference in people's lives. Among the many community organisations represented were the Maffra Band, St

Vincent de Paul, Maffra Men's Shed, Maffra Women's Shed, the Lions Club, and the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Councillor Foat reiterated her acknowledgement by extending a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers for their generosity, kindness and commitment which makes for a stronger, safer and more connected community. Councillor Foat thanked those in attendance and also those who were unable to attend on the day.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY acknowledged a similar afternoon tea held for volunteers the previous week in Rosedale at the Rosey Pub (Rosedale Pub) and extended a big thank you to all those tireless volunteers for their incredible work in the community. In attendance was Councillor Bannerman, Councillor Ripper and Mayor Madeley. There were approximately 40 volunteers in attendance and a similar range of other representative groups; Lions Club, Rosedale Food Bank, Cemetery trust and many others. Without these volunteers, many community organisations would not exist.

Councillor Madeley thanked Council staff, including Sharon, who assist in organising these events and enable Councillors to meet these volunteer groups and find out if there are additional ways that Council can support their important work.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON acknowledged the RAAF Roulettes display which took place last Friday afternoon from 4.00pm. The RAAF Roulettes aircraft spectacle took place in and around the airspace above the Port of Sale. There were hundreds of people on the ground at the Port of Sale in attendance to observe the air display, something which would be a 'first class' display by world standards. It was a great gathering and a great event.

Those in Sale are very fortunate to see the Roulettes and other planes who train in the skies above Sale and are particularly lucky when the Roulettes put on an air display.

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. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: COUNCILLOR CINDY MADELEY

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for June 2026.</i>
COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR WELLS
That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for June 2026.
CARRIED

11. DELEGATES REPORT

NIL

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for June 2026.</i>	
COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR LOWE	
That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for June 2026.	
CARRIED	

JUNE 2026

DATE	EVENT
1 June	Met with Mayor, Weekly Catch Up. Met with Cr Lowe, Catch Up.
4 June	Attended Committee for Wellington Monthly Meeting. Met with Mayor regarding CEO KPI's.
9 June	Met with Mayor, Weekly Catch Up. Met with Mayor, Karen Cain and Darren McCubbin introduction. Met with Deputy Mayor, Catch Up. Attended meeting with Sara Rhodes-Ward, RDV.
11 June	Attended Destination Gippsland Board Meeting. Met with Scott Cornish – Managing Director Southern Rural Water.
12 June	Met with Cr Bannerman, Catch Up.
15 June	Attended MAV, Monday Connect, CEO Meeting. Met with Mayor, Weekly Catch Up.
17-19 June	Attended LG Pro Conference in Melbourne.
18 June	Met with Alistair Parker, CEO VicGrid in Melbourne.
19 June	Attended online meeting with Fulham Correctional Centre General Manager, Jim Watson regarding Protected Industrial Action. Attended MAV/VicGrid Local Government Renewable Energy Transition Forum, in Melbourne.

DATE	EVENT
22 June	Feedlot Site Visit with General Manager Development and Manager Planning.
22 June	Attended NGA Conference in Canberra (22 – 26 June) – report attached.
23 June	One Gippsland CEO Forum – Chair Meeting, online in Canberra.
24 June	Met with Darren Chester MP, Parliament House, Canberra. Met with Rosie Gilbert, Aide to Chris Bowen MP, Parliament House, Canberra. Attended 2026 Coastal Council Advocacy Roundtable and Community Mutual Session (Insurance Crisis), Canberra.

Chief Executive Officer Annual leave taken: 29 June 2026 – 3 July 2026.

13. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

13.1. RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 29 June 2026 to 12 July 2026.</i>
COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR WELLS
That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 29 June 2026 to 12 July 2026.
CARRIED

14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

14.1. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT, QUARTER 2 2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That Council:</i>
<i>1. Receive the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 2, April to June 2026, as attached.</i>
COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR LOWE
That Council:
1. Receive the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 2, April to June 2026, as attached.
CARRIED

14.2. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - MAY 2026

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 2026.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR FOAT

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 May and 31 May 2026.

CARRIED

14.3. AMENDMENT C124WELL (GIBSONS ROAD)

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION

Councillor Foat declared a general conflict of interest under section 127 for this item due to direct association with a family member.

Councillor Foat left Council Chambers at 5:21pm.

That Council:

- 1. Supports the preparation and public exhibition of proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C124well to the Wellington Planning Scheme to rezone land at 6, 32, and 34 Chinaman's Lane, Sale and Lot 2 PS500984, 167, 155A, 145, 143 and 123 Gibsons Road, Sale and Crown Allotment 125C Section 1 Parish of Sale from Farming Zone (FZ) to General Residential Zone - Schedule 3 (GRZ3), Commercial Zone - Schedule 1 (C1Z), and Public Use Zone - Schedule 1 (PUZ1), and apply the Development Plan Overlay - Schedule 15 (DPO15) generally in accordance with draft planning scheme amendment documentation in Attachment 14.3.1 – Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C124well Documents.***
- 2. Authorises officers to continue discussions and negotiations with the Proponent to deliver development contributions consistent with the 'North Sale Development Plan (2018)', and the 'North Sale Infrastructure Funding Arrangement (2022, or as amended)', allowing for anticipated updates to required costings and net developable hectare rates;***
- 3. Requests the Minister for Planning to Authorise the preparation and public exhibition of Amendment C124well; and***
- 4. Authorises officers to make minor modifications to the draft planning scheme amendment documentation, which do not substantially alter the strategic intent of the proposal to facilitate the requirements of the Department of Transport and referral agencies.***

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That Council:

1. Supports the preparation and public exhibition of proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C124well to the Wellington Planning Scheme to rezone land at 6, 32, and 34 Chinaman's Lane, Sale and Lot 2 PS500984, 167, 155A, 145, 143 and 123 Gibsons Road, Sale and Crown Allotment 125C Section 1 Parish of Sale from Farming Zone (FZ) to General Residential Zone - Schedule 3 (GRZ3), Commercial Zone - Schedule 1 (C1Z), and Public Use Zone - Schedule 1 (PUZ1), and apply the Development Plan Overlay - Schedule 15 (DPO15) generally in accordance with draft planning scheme amendment documentation in Attachment 14.3.1 – Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C124well Documents.
2. Authorises officers to continue discussions and negotiations with the Proponent to deliver development contributions consistent with the 'North Sale Development Plan (2018)', and the 'North Sale Infrastructure Funding Arrangement (2022, or as amended)', allowing for anticipated updates to required costings and net developable hectare rates;
3. Requests the Minister for Planning to Authorise the preparation and public exhibition of Amendment C124well; and
4. Authorises officers to make minor modifications to the draft planning scheme amendment documentation, which do not substantially alter the strategic intent of the proposal to facilitate the requirements of the Department of Transport and referral agencies.

CARRIED

Councillor Foat returned to Council Chambers for the Council Meeting at 5:24pm.

14.4. RENEWABLE ENERGY LAND AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

Councillor Bannerman left online the Council Meeting at 5.25pm.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract for Tender 2026-000149 'Renewable Energy Land and Infrastructure Plan'; and*
2. *That the Chief Executive Officer or delegate provide details to Council of the contract awarded under this delegation.*

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

1. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract for Tender 2026-000149 'Renewable Energy Land and Infrastructure Plan'; and
2. That the Chief Executive Officer or delegate provide details to Council of the contract awarded under this delegation.

CARRIED

Councillor Bannerman returned online to the Council Meeting at 5.27pm.

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.

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS –

KEN WHITEMAN – Ken addressed Council in his capacity as a Property Development Manager who is running the process for C124Well, passed by resolution at this evening's Council meeting. Ken extended his thanks to Wellington Shire Council officers, describing his interactions with them throughout the process as an outstanding experience.

Ken commented that 'their commitment and their effort, energy and professionalism and responsiveness just cannot be questioned'. Ken would like to be able to transport and replicate his experience with the Wellington Shire into some of the other municipalities and re-iterated again, in closing, the professionalism and efforts of the officers.

ONLINE COMMENTS

DR CAROL GLOVER – Carol writes to object to the \$5 extra charge intended to be made on the garbage collection. Carol does not think she should be subsidizing other people's bad habits as she only puts her bins out about 4-5 times a year. Carol is careful about not creating waste, and Carol composts her food scraps. If Wellington Shire Council had left the non-recyclable bin collection as it was, and as she believes Latrobe Valley continues to do, this extra charge would not be happening. Carol would also like to ask about the legality of this charge and whether Wellington Shire Council is authorised to collect what is effectively a tax for welfare. Carol is guessing these people Wellington Shire Council is planning to subsidise live on a higher annual income than she does and live more extravagantly. Carol asks that the charge be reconsidered.

LISA McDONALD - Lisa cautions against the loss of valuable social capital gained through Wellington Shire Council's library services with its good will which cannot be easily measured or replaced by a facility where staff are not invested. Lisa believes it would be a shame to lose this care for a service and facility and community by replacing it merely with a function of Council.

Chief Executive Officer David Morcom acknowledged the comments received and advised that copies had been provided to all Councillors. He further advised that responses would be provided to both Carol and Lisa in accordance with Council's policy position, with copies of those responses also to be circulated to all Councillors.

16. IN CLOSED SESSION

16.1. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

- 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)(f) 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 5.33pm.

The Chief Executive Officer David Morcom left the Council chambers.

16.2. IN CLOSED SESSION: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 2026-27 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR FOAT

Details Redacted.

CARRIED



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 21 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 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 2026-27 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA** 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
9/07/2026

16.3. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

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

CARRIED

Meeting declared closed at: 5.38pm.