



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 1 September 2026, commencing at 5:00 PM

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 1 September 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

Chris Hastie, General Manager Built & Natural Environment

Renae Littlejohn, General Manager Development

Billie-Jo Thorburn, Acting Manager Customer & Communications

Catie Thomson, Senior Governance and Reporting Officer

Nikola Faberova, Corporate Governance Officer

David Harper, Manager Natural Environment and Parks

Samantha Nock, Coordinator Waste and Sustainability

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

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 18 August 2026.</i>	
COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR LOWE	
That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 18 August 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. RECEIPT OF PETITION: REINSTATEMENT OF WEEKLY RED BIN COLLECTION

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GALLERY ONLINE COMMENTS

David Kiely presented online to Council in relation to the Petition for re-instatement of the weekly red lidded bin collection. David feels the new bin collection schedule does not reflect community needs and poses some serious health and bio-hazard risks and explained he is representing 3,100+ petition signatories, 2000 of which come from within the Shire.

David supports the new food and garden organics green bin service (FOGO) collection but feels that a weekly general waste bin collection service is also the most basic of services that any council can offer.

On behalf of all petition signatories, David expressed the following:

- the change in collection places unfair financial burden on rate payers who pay an extra fee in the rates for the new FOGO yet receive half the general waste rubbish service that existed before.
- the increase in size and number of bins via the \$100,000 general waste subsidy does not reduce waste volume, but it does increase costs to ratepayers.
- the changed bin collection service places additional logistical and physical burden on households, particularly for vulnerable and elderly residents and treats them as 'commercial waste managers'.
- rubbish dumping may increase, particularly during higher visitor times.
- what works in compact metropolitan councils does not automatically work for rural areas.

David requests that Council formally receive the petition and vote to bring back the 'core service' that people need which is the weekly red bin collection and consider offsetting the additional costs by changing the frequency of the FOGO bin collection.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the attached petition requesting the reinstatement of the weekly red lidded garbage bin collection and refer it to the General Manager Built and Natural Environment for a report to a future Council meeting.

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON

That Council receive the attached petition requesting the reinstatement of the weekly red lidded garbage bin collection and refer it to the General Manager Built and Natural Environment for a report to a future Council meeting.

CARRIED

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON acknowledged the new re-furbished Westpac Branch in Sale which Councillor Tatterson had the privilege of officially opening on 19 August 2026 and acknowledged the services they provide to the community. It is terrific to see Westpac committing to continuing to provide banking services for communities.

COUNCILLOR FOAT attended and acknowledged the Gippsland New Energy Conference (GNEC) held in Traralgon on Wednesday 19 August 2026 along with Councillor Stephens and Councillor Wells. The Conference was officially opened by Mayor Madeley. It was a valuable opportunity for networking and meeting others in the renewable energy sector and the exchange of knowledge regarding renewable energy best practice from around the world. Councillors heard from a wide range of speakers on renewable energy development, wind farms and the challenges of delivering major projects, including the sharing of 'learned experiences' from the United States around good planning, clear communication, community involvement and the need for collaboration across all levels of government.

Industry experts from Australia, including an energy policy expert, presented on the next stages of the nation's energy transition, outlining the infrastructure required to support future renewable energy development and ensure long-term energy security and sustainability. There was also participation in workshops with one such example involving community co-governance and benefit sharing; how local voices can shape future energy projects and outcomes. Presentations and discussions focused on project developments, challenges faced across the sector, and advancements in offshore wind development. The Conference highlighted the importance of collaboration across all levels of government to support the energy transition.

Councillor Foat also acknowledged the launch of the "Get the Edge. Eat More Veg" campaign which was held at Lazzaro Bros fruit and vegetable store on Monday 24 August 2026. Gippsland is the first region to launch this campaign which puts the Gippsland region at the front of this push to encourage people to eat more vegetables. The campaign brings together health, local government, community organisations and the vegetable industry to promote better health outcomes for people across Gippsland through greater vegetable consumption. The campaign is about finding simple, practical ways to add more vegetables into the everyday meals at home, work, school or when shopping locally and supports local growers and the wider agricultural sector.

The Gippsland region is a strong food producing area and when people are encouraged to choose fresh vegetables, this helps to keep the industry viable in supporting local jobs and ensuring growers continue to thrive.

Councillor Foat encouraged everyone to support the campaign and add one extra serve of vegetables each day. It is a small step, but one which can support general health, the health of families and the community.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER attended and acknowledged the Sale/Maffra and District Kennel Club Macalister All Breeds Kennel and Obedience Club three day winter Dog Show festival held over the weekend from 21 to 23 August 2026. The show was officially opened by Mayor Madeley on the Friday. There were approximately 300 dogs shown on the Friday and 400 shown on the Saturday. The show has been continuously held every year over the past 60 years and attracts visitors from across Australia. The event is held at the Maffra Recreational Reserve where the grounds are kept in immaculate condition. It is a favourable venue as it is the only undercover dog show area outside of metropolitan Melbourne area. Councillor Ripper thanked the volunteers for their support and participation and acknowledged their significant contribution.

Councillor Ripper also attended and acknowledged the Gippsland Vehicle Collection (GVC) grand re-opening which took place on Sunday 30 August. It was a fantastic day. Mayor Madeley conducted the official opening followed by addresses from Tim Bull MP and Duncan Malcolm, President of the GVC. The Chief Executive Officer David Morcom and Hon Darren Chester MP were also present on the day.

The building that houses the GVC, now re-furbished, is an important preservation of history, having been an old beet factory during World War II. Councillor Ripper re-iterated a big thank you to the volunteers and the GVC Committee for their invaluable contribution in making the re-opening possible, and also the role played by the volunteers in the refurbishment of the old building that now houses the vehicle collection. Councillor Ripper made special mention of Vanessa Noble, a volunteer.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY attended and acknowledged the 2025/26 Gippstar Awards in Morwell for sporting excellence as well as the award recipients. These awards acknowledge sporting excellence in two categories - Junior and Open. Wellington Shire had a number of monthly award winners - Ava Harrington for modern pentathlon, Florence White for Tetrathlon, Xanthe Wade and Darcy Wade for Show jumping, Madison Gilmore for clay target-skeet shooting, Mackenzie Gibbs for Surf Life Saving, and Jessica Jackson for Surf Life Saving. On the night the Gippsland Grammar Senior Girls, 1st Quad Scull, won the Junior Gippstar Team of the Year for the 2025/26. Mayor Madeley congratulated all award recipients for their efforts and commitment to their chosen sport.

Councillor Madeley also attended the Gippsland Business Awards on Friday 28 August in Churchill. All six Gippsland Mayors were in attendance. The Mayor congratulated all local businesses that were nominated for the Gippsland Business Awards and the four Wellington Shire businesses that were the finalists: The Berry Dairy, Scarlet and Grace, Fortified Physiotherapy / Crossfit 3850 and Summit Health and Performance Centre. It was fantastic to see 'Scarlet and Grace' receive a new award for this year, the 'Gippsland Edge' award for a business which demonstrates exceptional persistence, adaptability, and a deep commitment to the Gippsland region.

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 TATTERSON provided an update on a couple of the key issues being addressed by the South East Australian Transport Strategy (SEATS) which hosted an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Sale in August 2026. The AGM brought together Councils from the South East region of Australia. Amongst other presenters, the Department of Transport presented an update and some possible solutions/options for the Longwarry to Nar Nar Goon section of the highway where there are lower speed limits. As this section impacts both motorists and all transport operators with the time taken in transit to Melbourne, it was great to hear the government may be reviewing these options.

Another key issue gaining some traction is around government support for the Traralgon Bypass as there are currently 22 sets of traffic lights and much congestion in the town. SEATS is looking to create a position that supports moving forward on the Traralgon Bypass.

Chris Hastie as Wellington Shire Council's General Manager Built and Natural Environment also attended the SEATS AGM. Chris has the minutes which have been circulated. Councillor Tatterson has also circulated some of this information from the SEATS AGM to the Wellington Shire Councillors.

Councillor Tatterson provided an update on the Cameron Sporting Complex Committee which held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 20 August and reflected on the committee's first class facilities and the success of the clubs, such as the Cricket, Basketball and Gymnastics clubs, some of whom have been the very best for the region.

Councillor Tatterson congratulated Peter Anderson who was re-elected as the Chair of the Cameron Sporting Complex Committee, Anna Gaw who returns as the Treasurer, Pat Weatherley as the Secretary and Brad as Deputy Chair who has been involved with the gymnastics and is now a community member. Councillor Tatterson acknowledged Peter's achievements and the 'awesome' job he has done as Chair of this Committee over the past 40 years, noting the clear sense of pride that exists with regard to how the facilities are maintained.

These individuals were acknowledged by Councillor Tatterson as having a long standing commitment to the facility to ensure the clubs are successful and well run.

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN provided an update on Timber Towns Victoria. Key notes arising from the meeting are that the new Timber Towns Strategic Plan 2025-2027 was adopted and is now available on the Timber Towns Victoria website and the Timber Industry Roads Evaluation Study (TIRES) has been audited by Timber Towns and is now in progress.

In addition to these items, the three key priorities are also available on the Timber Towns website for what Timber Towns will advocate for in the upcoming election with both state and federal governments.

Councillor Bannerman also provided an update on the Rural Councils of Victoria (RCV) for which Councillor Bannerman will be attending the annual forum this Thursday and Friday in Swan Hill to work through ideas with fellow delegates on how best to advocate on Rural Councils with government.

The full 2026 election campaign priorities are now available on the RCV website and materials are available for all rural councils to access and promote the election campaign of investing in rural Victoria.

11. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

11.1. RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 10 August 2026 to 23 August 2026.

COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR FOAT

That Council note and receive the attached Council Workshop records for the period of 10 August 2026 to 23 August 2026.

CARRIED

11.2. MICROSOFT AGREEMENT RENEWAL

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 11.2.2 - Municipal Association of Victoria Contract Tender NPN 2.17-3 Evaluation Recommendation Report; and*
2. *Approve the renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement for a period of three years; and*
3. *Note the information contained in the confidential Attachments is designated confidential under Section 3(1) confidential information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 25 August 2026 because it relates 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 under the Municipal Association of Victoria Contract Tender NPN 2.17-3 Evaluation Recommendation Report can be made public.*

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

That Council:

1. *Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 11.2.2 - Municipal Association of Victoria Contract Tender NPN 2.17-3 Evaluation Recommendation Report; and*
2. *Approve the renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement for a period of three years; and*

3. Note the information contained in the confidential Attachments is designated confidential under Section 3(1) confidential information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 25 August 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:
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except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer under the Municipal Association of Victoria Contract Tender NPN 2.17-3 Evaluation Recommendation Report can be made public.

CARRIED

The Mayor announced the successful tenderers for Categories 1 – Enterprise Agreement, Category 2 – Open Licences and Category 3 – Cloud Solution as:

- Winc Australia Pty Ltd
- Data#3 Limited
- SoftwareONE
- Insight Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd
- Rhipe Australia Pty Ltd

For Category 4 – Microsoft Product and Services Agreement:

- Winc Australia Pty Ltd
- Data#3 Limited
- SoftwareONE

For Category 5 – Academic Licence Program:

- Winc Australia Pty Ltd
- Insight Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd

12. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

12.1. QUARTERLY BUILDING REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR LOWE

That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

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

NIL

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

NIL

Meeting declared closed at: 5:34 PM.

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