



COUNCIL MEETING **MINUTES**

16 JUNE 2026

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION
CENTRE (CAC)



MINUTES

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE (CAC), 47 COLE STREET,
SORELL ON 16 JUNE 2026

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The meeting commenced at 6:00 pm.

AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

I would like to advise that an audio-visual recording is being made of this meeting. I also remind everyone present to be respectful and considerate towards others attending the meeting. Language or behaviour that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory, or threatening to any person attending the meeting, or to those listening to the recording, will not be tolerated.

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – MAYOR GATEHOUSE

△

I would like to begin by paying respect to the traditional and original owners of this land the Mumirimina people, to pay respect to those that have passed before us and to acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community who are custodians of this land.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

△

Mayor J Gatehouse
Deputy Mayor M Larkins
Councillor S Campbell
Councillor M Miró Quesada Le Roux
Councillor B Nichols
Councillor M Reed
Councillor N Reynolds
Councillor B Shaw
Councillor C Torenus
Chief Executive Officer R Higgins
General Manager Operations J Hinchin

3.0 APOLOGIES

△

Nil

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

△

The Mayor requested any Councillors to indicate whether they had, or were likely to have, an interest in any item on the agenda.

Regarding Item 11.3, the Mayor noted her declared interest at the SPA meeting and that she removed herself from the meeting for the applicable item.



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No Councillor otherwise indicated they had, or were likely to have interest in any items on the agenda.

5.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 19 MAY 2026



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 May 2026 be confirmed."

66/2026 LARKINS/REYNOLDS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

6.0 MAYOR'S REPORT



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Mayor's communication report as listed be received."

67/2026 NICHOLS/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



7.0 SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*."

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 10 (7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, the Council by absolute majority may approve the consideration of a matter not appearing on the agenda, where the General Manager has reported:

- a) The reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda; and
- b) That the matter is urgent; and
- c) That advice has been provided under section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

8.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS REPORT



The following Council Workshop was held:

Date	Purpose	Councillor Attendance	Councillor Apologies
2 June 2026	- Final draft Operating Budget & Overview - Final draft Capital Budget - Revised Financial Management Strategy including LTFP and 10-year Capital Program for new / upgrade projects - Special Council meeting for rates and budget adoption - Draft Annual Plan - Draft Operational Plan - Waste Management contracted services update – bulk green & hard waste - Revised Waste Management Policy & associated Guidelines for multi-unit developments	Gatehouse, Larkins, Nichols, Torenus, Miro Quesada Le Roux, Reynolds, Reed	Shaw, Campbell



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	Councillor items x 2 Motions on Notice		
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9.0 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE



10.0 COUNCILLOR MOTIONS ON NOTICE



10.1 MOTION ON NOTICE COUNCILLOR REED – ELECTED MEMBER REGISTRATION TO WORK WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE

That Sorell Council:

1. Encourages all persons elected to Sorell Council to hold a Registration to Work with Vulnerable People card.
2. Outlines the RWVP for Elected Members policy in Councillor induction after each councillor election or by-election.
3. Documents the RWVP for Elected Members policy and procedures in Council's Governance, Child Safeguarding, Youth and Payment of Councillors Expenses policies.

68/2026 REED/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

An amended motion was moved.

69/2026 SHAW/TORENIUS

That Sorell Council:

1. Encourages all persons elected to Sorell Council to hold a Registration to Work with Vulnerable People card.
2. Outlines the RWVP for Elected Members in Councillor induction after each councillor election or by-election.

A procedural motion was moved

70/2026 TORENIUS/MIRO QUESADA

To lay the matter on the table.

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



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11.0 WORKGROUP REPORTS



RECOMMENDATION

"That the workgroup reports as listed be received."

71/2026 LARKINS/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

12.0 PETITIONS STILL BEING ACTIONED



Petition	Tabled at Council Meeting	Status
Withdrawal of the Blue Lagoon Draft Management Plan	18 th July 2023 ordinary Council meeting – S.58(2) LGA 1993.	Council laid the matter on the table for further consultancy on review and options assessment for stormwater management at Blue Lagoon. Variation to the operating budget approved at August 2023 Council meeting to facilitate this - \$50k. Final consultant reports received April 2024. Council staff continue to progress matters with Red Handfish research team (NHRT) in first instance through exchange of consultant reports, development of an interim water level management SOP and ongoing engagement prior to determining further actions. Exchange of all project materials expanded to relevant state and federal agencies. Engagement with NRM EAG has also occurred.



		Alternative permanent outfall design exiting at Boat Ramp underway. Detailed LIDAR survey and tidal level data indicate drain grade and tidal inundation limitations. Alternate approaches being investigated between Council and consultant. Two options completed. Original concept via Kannah and Boat Park to ramp most feasible / least cost. Revised PM Plan required to finalise planning, required budget and impacts of associated maintenance works of lagoon as per mechanical cumbungi removal. Preferred design concept to be distributed for community engagement then Reserve Management Plan update and completion and revised EPBC process to be undertaken concurrently to meet CERMP project funding timing commitment.
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13.0 PETITIONS RECEIVED



At the time of preparation of this agenda no petitions had been received.

14.0 LAND USE PLANNING



The Mayor advised in accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, the intention of the Council to act as a planning authority pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* is to be noted.

In accordance with Regulation 29, the Council will act as a planning authority in respect to those matters appearing under item 14 on this agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

14.1 SORELL PLANNING AUTHORITY MINUTES



RECOMMENDATION

"That the minutes of the Sorell Planning Authority ("SPA") Meeting of 19 May 2026 be noted."

72/2026 LARKINS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

15.0 GOVERNANCE



16.0 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS



17.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS



17.1 ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY GROUP – APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to appoint Councillor Beth Nichols and Councillor Marisol Miró Quesada Le Roux as Councillor representatives on the Access and Inclusion Advisory Group for the remainder of the current Council term."

73/2026 LARKINS/TORENIUS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.0 FINANCE



18.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 2026 YTD

RECOMMENDATION

"That the Executive Summary – FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 2026 YEAR-TO-DATE be received and noted by Council."

74/2026 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:



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The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.2 2025-2026 CAPITAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve pursuant to Section 82 of the Local Government Act 1993 to accept and adopt the below adjustments to the 2025/2026 Capital Budget estimates."

75/2026 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

19.0 PLANNING



20.0 HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE



20.1 PRIMROSE BEACH WATER QUALITY INVESTIGATION - 2026 Update

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to:

1. Investigate the feasibility of re-directing and treating seepage discharging onto Primrose Beach from the Carlton Bluff area; and
2. Continue water quality monitoring of ground and surface water discharging onto Primrose Beach."

76/2026 REED/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

20.2 WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY**RECOMMENDATION**

"That Council resolve to approve the updated Waste Management Policy 2026 contained in Attachment 1."

77/2026 NICHOLS/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

21.0 ROADS AND STORMWATER**22.0 FACILITIES AND RECREATION****MINUTES**

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23.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

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In accordance with Regulation 36 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, Council will conduct a Public Question Time.

At each meeting the Mayor will invite those members of the public present to ask questions. When requested please:

- Stand up; and
-
- State clearly your name and address.

This time is allocated for questions from the public. Questions are to be kept brief and specific to the topic to which they relate.

Members of the public are reminded that questions and any answers to such questions are not to be debated.

Questions may be submitted to Council in writing at least seven (7) days before an ordinary Council meeting.

Sharon Fotheringham of Forcett questioned if you don't currently have a FOGO bin do you just continue as normal with organic waste.

The Mayor advised continue as usual unless you opt in to the FOGO service.

Sharon further questioned if the bulk greenwaste (and hardwaste) service was continuing?

The Mayor advised that Council made a commitment to continue the bulk collection service until June 2027 and deferred to the Manager Health and Compliance to explain the current situation.

The Manager responded that we have currently put a freeze on booking for bulk collection services. The sub-contractor that undertakes this work has advised that they are no longer continuing with this work. This contractor was one of the only remaining operators undertaking this type of collection service. In the interim we have been in discussions with the principal contractor Cleanaway to see if they are able to source a vehicle and staff for this to continue. Until we are confident that this can be achieved, we won't be taking any further bookings.

Bob Brakey of Dunalley asked what was the cost of the Franklin Street upgrade?



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The CEO advised that the budget for this project was \$505,000.00 (TBC if that included all components or just the road).

Bob further questioned if the footpath for the Arthur Highway was in the budget for 2026/27?

The CEO advised that at this stage it is included in the Budget.

Bob asked if this could be concrete like Franklin Street.

The CEO advised that it will be a gravel footpath but that Council has applied for a grant from Department of State Growth under the vulnerable road user program to upgrade it to concrete.

Diedre Biggar of Dodges Ferry asked if residents are paying for FOGO to be collected are they going to be able to get the compost back.

The Mayor advised that the initial compost will be used at the Copping site. Once the processing of this compost has been refined and no contamination is present in the material then it could potentially be available to the market.

Cathy Minucci for Primrose Sands questioned what checks are undertaken on development applications in the Primrose Sands area given the current issues around sewage discharge and seepage.

The Manager Health and Compliance advised with a change of use application to visitor accommodation, there is a check that requires the proponent to demonstrate the change of use will not have any increase in loading on the current wastewater system. In some cases, with older systems this may result in an upgrade to the system being required.

Sharon Kemp of Dodges Ferry asked if a chipping service for bulk greenwaste could be considered for people needing to clear excess material from around their properties for hazard reduction?

The Mayor commented that you can contact your local TFS brigade and they can undertake an assessment of your property to give you advice on what you may need to do as far as plant growth to protect your property.

The Mayor further advised that a community chipping service could be added to the list of considerations should greenwaste collections not be able to occur.

Debra Salter of Carlton requested an update on Ferry Hall.

The CEO advised that Council is arranging an independent building/heritage assessment. One heritage assessor advised their unavailability and also indicated that the building likely may not meet the



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significance assessment threshold assessment. The CEO will follow up where these are at and advise.

Debra further questioned when the footpath on Carlton River Road will be completed.

The CEO advised that we would find out and contact Debra directly.

Sharon Kemp questioned what the CEO meant by the comment that the heritage assessor advised that Ferry Hall may not warrant an assessment.

The CEO advised that one of the heritage consultants we spoke with was familiar with the building and indicated that the building may not meet the required criteria to trigger a heritage assessment.

24.0 CLOSED MEETING



The Chief Executive Officer advised that in his opinion the listing of agenda item/s:

Reference	Item
24.1	Confirmation of the Closed Council Minutes of the Council Meeting of 19 May 2026 - <i>Regulation 40(3)</i>
24.2	Disclosure of confidential information – <i>Regulation 17(7)</i>

As prescribed items in accordance with Regulations 17 and 40 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, and therefore Council may by absolute majority determine to close the meeting to the general public.

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to the public to enable Council to consider agenda items 24.1 - 24.2 which are confidential matters as prescribed in Regulations 40 and 17 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

78/2026 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Reed, Shaw, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins, Campbell, Miro Quesada

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

The open meeting concluded at 8.02 pm.



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The Closed meeting commenced at 8.05 pm.

CLOSED MEETING

Members are advised that items listed below in the CLOSED SESSION AGENDA are classified as CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

A Councillor must not discuss any item listed in a CLOSED SESSION AGENDA with any person (except another elected member, the CEO or the author of a report to the closed session of Council or a Council Committee) without a specific resolution of the Council or a Council Committee that considered the report.

Section 338A (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* states that a Councillor must not disclose information:

- (a) seen or heard by the Councillor at a meeting or part of a meeting of a council or council committee that is closed to the public that is not authorised by the council or council committee to be disclosed; or*
- (b) given to the Councillor by the mayor, deputy mayor, chairperson of a meeting of the council or council committee or the general manager on the condition that it be kept confidential.*

Section 338A (3) states that a member must not disclose information acquired as such a member on the condition that it be kept confidential.

Additionally, Section 339 of the *Local Government Act 1993* states that:

- (1) A councillor or a member must not make improper use of any information acquired as a councillor or member.*
- (3) Improper use of information includes using the information –*
 - (a) to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage or to avoid, directly or indirectly, a disadvantage for oneself, a member of one's family or a close associate; or*
 - (b) to cause any loss or damage to any council, controlling authority, single authority, joint authority or person.*



- 24.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 19 MAY 2026**
- 24.2 AUTHORISATION TO DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

The closed meeting concluded at 8.06 pm.



25.0 ACRONYMS



AGM	Annual General Meeting
AFL	Australian Football League
AIR	Australian Immunisation Register
ASU	Australian Services Union
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWTS	Aerated Wastewater Treatment Systems
BEST	Business and Employment Southeast Tasmania
CAC	Community Administration Centre
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLRS	Councillors
CRM	Customer Request Management
CRDSJA	Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority
DEDTA	Department Economic Development, Tourism & The Arts
DECYP	Department for Education, Children and Young People
DPAC	Department of Premier & Cabinet
DPFEM	Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
DSG	Department of State Growth
DST	Destination Southern Tasmania
EBA	Enterprise Bargaining Agreement
EOI	Expressions of Interest
EOFY	End of Financial Year
EPA	Environment Permit Authority
EWaste	Electronic Waste
FMAC	Fire Management Assessment Committee
GM	General Manager
LGAT	Local Government Association of Tasmania
LPS	Local Provisions Schedule
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
MAST	Marine & Safety Tasmania
MEMC	Municipal Emergency Management Committee
NRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service
RDA	Regional Development Australia
RTI	Right to Information
SBIP	School Based Immunisation Program
SEI	South East Irrigation
SERDA	South East Region Development Association
SES	State Emergency Service
SPA	Sorell Planning Authority
STCA	Southern Tasmanian Councils Association
STRWA	Southern Tasmanian Regional Waste Authority
STRLUS	Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy
SWSA	Southern Waste Strategy Association
SWS	Southern Waste Solutions
TasCAT	Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
TAO	Tasmanian Audit Office



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