



**MORNINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday 29 July 2026**

1 OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting opened by Mayor Sewter at 9:16am

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the Lardil people of Mornington Island and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We would also like to acknowledge the Kaiadilt, Yangkaal, Waanyi, Gangalidda and Garrawa people who share our homelands.

3 PRESENT

Mayor Richard Sewter, Deputy Mayor Robert 'Bobby' Thompson, Cr Farrah Linden (joined meeting at 9:26am), Cr Renee Wilson and Cr Jane Ah Kit.

Gary Uhlmann (Chief Executive Officer) Matthew Fox (Director Corporate & Communications) and Jacinta Olds (Executive Officer)

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

Nil

6 CONDOLENCES AND MEMORIALS

A minute's silence was held for lost loved ones.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/112

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 June 2026 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED 5/0

Action Item: CEO to organise meeting / workshop with councillors to go through the procurement process and policy.

8 DEPUTATIONS

Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning – Update on Gulf Regional Plan @ 11:00AM.

Commenced: 11:08am – 11:33am

Attendees: Anna Nottingham, Cassandra Glendinning, Charmaine Aldridge, Leah Mosel, Sue Lockwood, Gary Scott.

9 ACTION SCHEDULE

Dept of Housing – Request to attend the next Council meeting in August.

10 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

10.1 Mayor and Councillor Verbal Reports

Mayor Richard Sewter

- Visit to Canberra - Disaster recovery funding issues with all councils. Funding has been cut which means local councils will have to self-fund. Costs are excessive for local councils to self-fund.
- Federal Government – Airport upgrade funding (Disaster Readiness). Airstrip requires immediate attention.
- GREAT board meeting.
- Meeting – Oyster farming.
- TCICA meeting – presentation at parliamentary seating hearing re: racism.
- Citizenship Ceremony.
- Continued advocacy for Alcohol Management Plan responsibilities to be handed back to community.

Cr Bobby Thompson

- Cemetery concerns – graves are not marked and named.

Cr Farrah Linden

- Cemetery concerns – something really needs to be done immediately. Space is a major issue.
- RISE – are now going to take over the clean-up of the old and new cemetery.
- Community Safety Plan – has to be reviewed. Copy to be given to councillors. Community should be included.
- Funeral has been moved from Thursday 30 July to next Monday 10 August.

- Ten (10) funerals still to be conducted – 5 off island.
- Funeral funds (Council) – needs to be reviewed.
- Sorry Business committee needs to be organised.
- IKC – family history information.
- Suicide Prevention – will be on island again in August.

Cr Renee Wilson

- NAIDOC week – was a good celebration.
- Rubbish was left on festival grounds and made it hard to dance on.
- Community participation needs to be encouraged for better engagement.

Cr Jane Ah Kit

- Citizenship Ceremony was good.
- NAIDOC week – 50-year celebrations were done well. It was nice to see the community involved. Cultural dancing was a highlight.

RESOLUTION 2026/113

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Councillors receive and note the Mayor and Councillors' verbal reports for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

Short Break – 10.40am – 10:52am

11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

11.1 Chief Executive Officer Report - June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/114

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Councillors receive and note the Chief Executive report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

12 FINANCE

12.1 Financial Report – June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/115

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council receive and note the interim Financial Report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

12.2 Projects Office - Masterplan Monthly Update June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/116

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the periodic Capital Projects Office Masterplan overview for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

12.3 Projects Office – Department of Housing Updates

RESOLUTION 2026/117

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That the Council notes the update from the Project Office regarding the above-mentioned addresses.

CARRIED 5/0

12.4 Write-Off of Invalid Fees

RESOLUTION 2026/118

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council write off the outstanding amount of \$224,340 against the GRAC account.

CARRIED 5/0

Lunch Break – 12.25pm – 1:08 pm

Cr Jane Ah Kit rejoined meeting at 1:14pm.

13 COMMUNITY

13.1 Community Report – June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/119

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council receive and note the Community Report for 1-30 June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

14 CORPORATE AND COMMUNICATIONS

14.1 Corporate & Communications Report – June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/120

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council receive and note the Corporate and Communications Report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

14.2 Development Application Reconfiguring a Lot (Boundary Realignment) - Lots 11-2SP241297

RESOLUTION 2026/121

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

Council as the Local Government Authority resolves to approve (subject to conditions) the Development Application lodged with Council for Reconfiguring a Lot (Boundary Realignment).

CARRIED 5/0

14.3 Department of Housing and Public Works – Tenancy Services Update

RESOLUTION 2026/122

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council receive and note the report related to Queensland Government Department of Housing and Public Works – Tenancy Services for July 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

Action Item: CEO to organise a report from Housing and Public Works on what the tenancy agreements are. Housing to present to council at next meeting and include what rules are included in the tenancy agreement.

14.4 Public Interest Disclosure (PID) Policy and Procedure

RESOLUTION 2026/123

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council adopts the updated Public Interest Disclosure Policy and Public Interest Disclosure Procedure as tabled and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make the documents publicly available on Council's website.

CARRIED 5/0

14.5 Administrative Action Complaints Management Policy

RESOLUTION 2026/124

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council resolves to adopt the proposed statutory Administrative Action Complaints Management Policy as tabled.

CARRIED 5/0

14.6 Advertising Spending Policy

RESOLUTION 2026/125

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council resolves to adopt the proposed statutory Advertising Spending Policy as tabled.

CARRIED 5/0

14.7 Councillor Code of Conduct

RESOLUTION 2026/126

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council pursuant to the Local Government Act 2009, formally resolves to adopt the updated Councillor Code of Conduct.

CARRIED 5/0

14.8 Model Meeting Procedures and Best Practice Example Standing Orders**RESOLUTION 2026/127**

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council reviews and resolves to adopt, for the conduct of Council, Trustee and Standing Committee Meetings:

(a) Pursuant to section 150G(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2009 the Model Meeting Procedures published by the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers, as revised July 2026; and

(b) The Best Practice Example Council Standing Orders for Local Government and Standing Committee Meetings published by the Department, as revised July 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

14.9 S48A Complaints about the Chief Executive Officer Policy**RESOLUTION 2026/128**

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council resolves to adopt the s48a Complaints about the Chief Executive Officer Policy as tabled.

CARRIED 5/0

14.10 Chief Executive Officer Appointment and Performance Policy

Removed from agenda until further legal advice is obtained.

14.11 Recreational Master Plan**RESOLUTION 2026/129**

Moved: Cr Renee Wilson

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council adopts the Mornington Shire Council Recreational Master Plan as tabled.

CARRIED 5/0

15 HUMAN RESOURCES

15.1 Human Resources & Payroll Services Report - June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/130

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council receive and note the Human Resources report for June 2026.

Action Item: CEO to include the MSC organisational structure in the next council meeting.

CARRIED 5/0

16 HOUSING AND FACILITIES

16.1 Housing and Facilities Report – June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/131

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Bobby Thompson

That Council receive and note the Housing and Facilities report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

17 ENGINEERING

17.1 Engineering and Infrastructure Report - June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/132

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the Engineering and Infrastructure report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

18 Hospitality and Accommodation

18.1 Hospitality and Accommodation Report – June 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/133

Moved: Cr Bobby Thompson

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council receive and note the Hospitality and Accommodation report for June 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

19 CORRESPONDENCE

20 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Jane Ah Kit

- Airport – REX Airlines – booking of airfares. REX needs to improve the service for booking tickets. The only place to book local fares at the moment is at the airport.
- Post Office – Opening hours, parcel collection – community does not have a lot of time to access their mail. Post is an essential service for the community.
- Cr Farrah Linden requested information on the status of the CEO contract and performance review. Requested further discussion at a later date.

21 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil.

22 NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled ordinary council meeting will be held on 26 August 2026.

23 CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 2:49pm.