MORNINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES OF MEETING

Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday 28 October 2026

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting opened by Mayor Richard Sewter at 9:06am

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, Cr Renee Wilson and Cr Jane Ah Kit.

Matthew Fox (Acting Chief Executive Officer) and Emma Kruse (Executive Assistant - Minutes)

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 – 30 September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/175

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson
Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting – 23 September 2026 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

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8 DEPUTATIONS

9:00am – Nick Lennon, Lead Civil Engineer, ERSCON and Dean Patchett, Regional Liaison Officer, Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Presentation of the 2026 roads program and the upcoming plan for 2027.

(commenced 9:08am – 10:05am)

Mayor Richard Sewter left the meeting at 9:44am and returned at 9:45am

Cr Renee Wilson left the meeting at 9:50am and returned at 9:57am

Short Break – 10:05am – 10:21am

9 ACTION SCHEDULE

9.1 Open Action Items

MORNINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

ACTION SCHEDULE

DATE	DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	OUTCOME	STATUS
27/05/2026	CEO / DCC	Policy and Procedure for burials, funerals and sorry business to be done by Council. Follow up with DG for assistance.	Data Provided by Cr. Linden for input into consolidated Policy and procedure.	In Progress
26/08/2026	DCC	Organise meeting with Councillors on Tesday 01 September to discuss funeral & sorry business procedures and policy.	Meeting to be rescheduled.	In Progress
30/09/2026	DEI	Update Cemetery Map with names and lot numbers		In Progress
30/09/2026	DEI	Request to clean up the gardens around the Totem Poles and Memorial at the Airport including rocks as they cause a hazard		In Progress
30/09/2026	DEI	Review of process of Heavy vehicle transport and traffic management on Island. and qualifications on Island. WHS and qualification checks to be conducted with Contractors working on the Island		In Progress
30/09/2026	DHA	Review Fees and Charges for Motel bookings with multiple occupancy. Report to be presented to the October Meeting		In Progress

Action Item: Acting CEO to organise for the trees around the Totem Poles at the Memorial Garden at the Airport to be removed prior to Memorial Day.

10 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

10.1 Mayor and Councillor Verbal Reports

Mayor Richard Sewter

- Attended meetings with GREAT & ADBT
- Attended the LGAQ Conference including a meeting with Queensland Indigenous Council Leaders Accord.

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- Met with Steve Jones, QLD State Manager, Rex. Discussed the Local Fare Scheme and additional flights.
- Upcoming meeting with Premier and Cabinet in Brisbane.
- Upcoming visit to Bamaga with OLGR.

Deputy Mayor Bobby Thompson

- Went onsite to visit the roads crew. Discussed travel between depot and work site during the day.

RESOLUTION 2026/176

Moved: C Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Councillors excuse Cr Renee Wilson from the meeting for 1 hour to present at an IBA seminar.

CARRIED 4/0

Mayor Richard Sewter left the meeting at 10:47am

Cr Renee Wilson left meeting at 10.49am

Mayor Richard Sewter returned at 10.52am

Cr Jane Ah Kit

- Attended the 54 Reasons Make It Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Day. A presentation on the day discussed the issue of online gambling.
- Attended the Elders Morning Tea
- Indigenous Leaders Forum – does not feel its reflective of indigenous Local Government.
- WQPHN recently held a regional workshop on SEWB framework - only 3 indigenous people in attendance.
- Lighting of streets and accommodation areas was raised at this month's Community Safety Committee Meeting, would like Council to investigate.
- Inability for residents to renew Driver Licence and vehicle registrations. TMR visit island twice a year.

Cr Farrah Linden

- Attended the LGAQ Conference
- Spoke with QRL representatives about funding received for the oval upgrade. Requested an update on oval remediation activities.
- RACQ – have funding options available for volunteers to come to the Island and complete small projects.
- RACQ – Road Safety Education for community. Look at sponsorship opportunities for child restraint supply and installation.

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- Road improvements – line marking and reflectors need replacing.
- Motion for LGAQ 2027 conference. Would like to present a motion next year regarding AMP.
- Ongoing sorry business in remote communities. More attention from government and increased funding for betterment of cemeteries.
- Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council presented on Family and Domestic Violence at the LGAQ conference. Would like to receive a copy of the presentation.
- Council's newly appointed Funeral Coordinator is doing a great job in the role.
- If someone has passed on island and are transported off island to the Coroner families must deal with a funeral home go out to coroner need to deal with funeral homes. Why can't Council deal directly for bodies that don't leave island. Burial assistance funding.
- SEWB – Report and outcome from Ngarnal? Where are the gaps? How do we come together as a community. $14M funding for Thrillily

Cr Jane Ah Kit left the meeting at 11:20am and returned at 11:25am

Cr Renee Wilson

- Attended the LGAQ conference – great networking opportunity. Was great to talk to other Councils about their issues.
- QRL – Funding for Oval upgrade.
- RACQ – Road Safety Issues including child restraints and correct installation.
- Recent visit to Canberra. Visited a number of significant sites including Parliament House, AIATSIS and the National Gallery. It was great to see some of our collections on display.
- Attended First Indigenous Business Forum – online event. IBA, Business Foundations, Fair Trading. Presented on car hire business. Extended invitation to come to Island to share info.
- Request for updated uniforms to attend events.

RESOLUTION 2026/177

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

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

CARRIED 5/0

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11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

11.1 Chief Executive Officer Report – September 2026

Action Item: Acting CEO to provide update on preparation for wet season and Disaster Management activities.

RESOLUTION 2026/178

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the Acting Chief Executive Officer's report for September 2026.

CARRIED 4/0

11.2 Request for Support for Memorial Day Activities

RESOLUTION 2026/179

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

That Council provide a Community Grant of $10,000.00 and in-kind support of $6,540.00 to GRAC to assist with the planned Memorial Day activities for 2026; and

That Council delegate to the CEO, approval to assess and approve all future requests for in-kind support for this GRAC event and add the value of all contributions to the general ledger.

CARRIED 4/0

Lunch Break – 11:55am – 1:00pm

12 FINANCE

12.1 Financial Report – September 2026

Cr Renee Wilson returned to meeting at 1:03pm

Cr Farrah Linden returned to meeting at 1:07pm

RESOLUTION 2026/180

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council receive and note the Financial Report for September 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

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12.2 Finance Report – Outstanding Debtors

RESOLUTION 2026/181

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council accept the request and approves the write-off of $6,811.94.

CARRIED 5/0

12.3 Projects Office – Masterplan Monthly Update September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/182

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

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

CARRIED 5/0

12.4 Procurement – Fuel Supply

RESOLUTION 2026/183

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council approves formal engagement of Gulf Engineering & Constructions (ABN: 52 011 042 621) in accordance with Qld Local Government Regulation 235 (a) and authorises the CEO to enter into a 12-month fixed term contractual arrangement.

CARRIED 5/0

13 COMMUNITY

13.1 Community Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/184

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the Community Report for September 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

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13.2 Jetty Enhancement Project

RESOLUTION 2026/185

Moved: Cr Farrah Linden

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council:

1. Endorse the proposed Stage 2 enhancements to the Community Jetty as part of a Waterfront Recreation Precinct; and
2. Support Officers progressing funding opportunities for the proposed works.

CARRIED 5/0

14 HUMAN RESOURCES

14.1 Human Resources Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/186

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

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

CARRIED 5/0

14.2 Recruitment & Selection Policy

RESOLUTION 2026/187

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council resolves to adopt the Recruitment and Selection Policy as tabled.

CARRIED 5/0

15 CORPORATE AND COMMUNICATIONS

15.1 Corporate & Communications Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/188

Moved: Cr Renee Wilson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the Corporate and Communications report for September 2026.

CARRIED 5/0

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15.2 Operational Plan – Q1 Report

RESOLUTION 2026/189

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council receive and note the Q1 report of the Mornington Shire Council Annual Operational Plan for financial year 2026/27.

CARRIED 5/0

16 HOUSING AND FACILITIES

16.1 Housing and Facilities Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/190

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Jane Ah Kit

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

CARRIED 5/0

17 ENGINEERING & INFRASTRUCTURE

17.1 Engineering and Infrastructure Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/191

Moved: Cr Renee Wilson

Seconded: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

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

CARRIED 5/0

Short Break – 2:30pm – 2:37pm

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18 HOSPITALITY AND ACCOMMODATION

18.1 Hospitality and Accommodation Report – September 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/192

Moved: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

Seconded: Cr Farrah Linden

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

CARRIED 5/0

RESOLUTION 2026/193

Moved: Mayor Richard Sewter

Seconded: Cr Robert 'Bobby' Thompson

That Council:

1. Endorse the concept of the interim tavern kitchen solution as proposed by the Director of Hospitality and Accommodation; and
2. Enable the Director of Hospitality and Accommodation to present a detailed plan including estimated costings be prepared and presented to the November Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED 5/0

19 CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence from Gulf Savannah Development to The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP - RE: FNQ Designated Area Migration Agreement - Deed of Variation include Burke, Carpentaria, Doomadgee and Mornington Island Local Government Areas.

20 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Jane Ah Kit

- TMR – Community members are unable to access TMR services on Island to renew Drivers Licence and Vehicle Registrations. Issues with the Local Fare Scheme.
- Enquired if there was a subsidy available for community for drinking water.
- Acknowledged the performance of the Acting CEO and Executive during the current acting period whilst the CEO is on leave.

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Cr Farrah Linden

- Requested a review of the current CEO contract and for the draft CEO Appointment and Performance strategic policy to be presented for Council approval at the November Ordinary Council Meeting.

Mayor Richard Sewter

- Asked for all Directors to be present at future Council Meetings to present their reports. If they are unavailable request that they send a delegate.

20.1 Location of Plug In – 37 Lardil Street, Gununa

RESOLUTION 2026/194

Moved: Cr Jane Ah Kit

Seconded: Cr Renee Wilson

That Council resolve to adopt 37 Lardil Street as the location for the final plug-in for this round of funding.

CARRIED 5/0

21 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil.

22 NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled ordinary council meeting to be held on Wednesday 25 November 2026 as per Resolution 2025/177.

23 CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 3:28pm

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