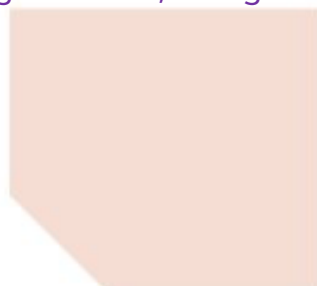


Connecting Council  
and Community



## Longreach Regional Council **MINUTES**

of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 19 March 2026 at  
96 Eagle Street, Longreach, Qld 4730



Delivering  
excellent service



**Longreach  
Regional Council**  
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

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**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
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## **1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgment of Country**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at **9:00 am**.

"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and we pay our respects to their elders past and present."

### **Present**

#### **Councillors**

Mayor	Cr AC Rayner
Deputy Mayor	Cr LJ Nunn
	Cr DJ Bignell
	Cr AJ Emslie
	Cr NA Gay
	Cr TM Hatch
	Cr AR Watts

### **Officers**

Chief Executive Officer	Brett Walsh
Chief Financial Officer	David Wilson
Director of Communities	Tanya Johnson
Director of Works	André Pretorius
Director of Organisational Services	Grace Cronin-Jones
Manager of Economics, Planning, and Legal	Simon Kuttner
Executive Officer of Governance	Sharon Calligaro

### **Apologies**

Nil

## **2 Prayer**

Reverend Jenny Potter, Uniting Church, opened the meeting with a prayer.

## **3 Condolences**

The meeting paid its respects and observed a minutes silence to mark the passing of community members Jeffrey Searles and Mary Jane Bullen.

## **4 Leave of Absence**

Nil

## **5 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors**

No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **6.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

*Res-2026-03-53*

*Moved: Cr Tracy Hatch | Seconded: Cr Tony Emslie*

*That Council confirms the Minutes dated 19 February 2026 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **7 Mayoral Report**

### **7.1 Mayoral Report**

*Res-2026-03-54*

*Moved: Cr Nikki Gay | Seconded: Cr Andrew Watts*

*That Council receives the Mayoral Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **8 Notices of Motion**

Nil

## **9 Petitions**

Nil

## **10 Deputations**

Nil

## **11 Chief Executive Officer's Report**

### **11.1 Councillor Information Correspondence**

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

*Res-2026-03-55*

*Moved: Cr Andrew Watts | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council receives the Councillor Information Correspondence Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
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## **11.2 Chief Executive Officer's Council Report**

This report provides an update on the activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Chief Executive Officer.

*Res-2026-03-56*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay*

*That Council receives the Chief Executive Officer's Council report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at **10:31 am** and resumed at **11:00am** with all those present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

## **11.3 Amendments to the 2025-26 Annual Operational Plan**

Consideration of minor amendments to the Longreach Regional Council 2025-26 Annual Operational Plan, which are presented for adoption.

*Res-2026-03-57*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Tracy Hatch*

*That Council, pursuant to section 174(4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, adopts the proposed amendments to the Longreach Regional Council 2025-26 Annual Operational Plan, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **12 Organisational Services Report**

### **12.1 Director of Organisational Services Report**

This report provides an operational activity update. A separate Directorate Dashboard provides Council with an overview of performance, risk and emerging trends.

*Res-2026-03-58*

*Moved: Cr Nikki Gay | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council receives the Director of Organisational Services report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### **12.2 Governance Framework**

Consideration of developed Governance Framework for Longreach Regional Council.

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

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Res-2026-03-59

Moved: Cr Tracy Hatch | Seconded: Cr Dale Bignell

That Council adopts the Governance Framework, as presented.

CARRIED 7 / 0

### **12.3 Policy Framework**

Consideration of Policy Framework.

Res-2026-03-60

Moved: Cr Andrew Watts | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay

That Council adopts the Policy Framework as presented.

CARRIED 7 / 0

### **12.4 Delegations and Authorisations Policy**

Consideration of a new Delegations and Authorisations Policy.

Res-2026-03-61

Moved: Cr Leonie Nunn | Seconded: Cr Tony Emslie

That Council adopts the Delegations and Authorisations Policy, as presented.

CARRIED 7 / 0

### **12.5 Conflict of Interest Policy and Management Plan**

Consideration of new Conflict of Interest Policy and Management Plan.

Res-2026-03-62

Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay

That Council:

1. Adopts the new Conflict of Interest Policy, as presented, and
2. Adopts the new Conflict of Interest Management Plan, as presented.

CARRIED 7 / 0

### **12.6 Consideration of Longreach Regional Council Local Resilience Action Plan**

Consideration of Longreach Regional Council Local Resilience Action Plan, reviewed January 2026.

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
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*Res-2026-03-63*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council adopts the Longreach Regional Council Local Resilience Action Plan, as presented and amended.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **12.7 Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report**

The Workplace Health and Safety report is presented to the Council for consideration. Details include performance commentary, risk management activities, health and safety initiatives, training, injuries and Workers Compensation claims information, as of 9 January 2026.

*Res-2026-03-64*

*Moved: Cr Tony Emslie | Seconded: Cr Dale Bignell*

*That Council notes the monthly Workplace Health and Safety report for February 2026, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

The meeting adjourned for lunch at **1:01pm** and resumed at **1:51pm** with all those present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

## **12.8 Information Report - Organisational Services**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Organisational Services Directorate.

*Res-2026-03-65*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Tracy Hatch*

*That Council receives the Organisational Services Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **12.9 Information Report - Planning and Development Report**

This report provides an update on Development Services that has occurred during the month of February.

*Res-2026-03-66*

*Moved: Cr Tracy Hatch | Seconded: Cr Dale Bignell*

*That Council receives the Planning and Development information report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **13 Finance Report**

### **13.1 Chief Financial Officer's Report**

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 28 February 2026:

*Res-2026-03-67*

*Moved: Cr Nikki Gay | Seconded: Cr Tony Emslie*

*That Council receives the Chief Financial Officer's Report for the period ending 28 February 2026, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

#### **Attendance:**

Simon Kuttner, Manager of Economics, Planning, and Legal left the meeting at 2:09pm and returned at 2:25pm

### **13.2 Information Report - Finance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that occurred during the month for the Financial Services Directorate.

#### **Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the Finance Information Report, as presented.*

*Res-2026-03-68*

*Moved: Cr Tracy Hatch | Seconded: Cr Andrew Watts*

*That Council receives the Finance Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### **13.3 Excess Water**

Consideration of a concession for excess water for assessment A1119.

*Res-2026-03-69*

*Moved: Cr Andrew Watts | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay*

*That pursuant to section 120(1)(d) of the Local Government Regulations 2012, Council grants a concession of \$4,697 to the land owners of assessment A1119 on its excess water charge as the payment will cause hardship to the land owner.*

*LOST 1 / 6*

## LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

### Statement of Reasons

Pursuant to section 254H of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the statement of reasons for the above outcome is as follows:

Councillors did not consider that there was genuine hardship in this instance.

### 13.4 Extension on Rates Due Date

Consideration of an Extension to Longreach Regional Council's Rates Due Date from 20 March 2026 to 30 March 2026 Due to Flood Impacts

*Res-2026-03-70*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council extend the due date for payment of rates and charges for the rating period 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2026 from 20 March 2026 to 30 March 2026, in accordance with section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### Attendance:

Liz Turner, Events and Marketing Coordinator joined the meeting at 2:50pm

### Mayoral Minute:

*Res-2026-03-71*

*Moved: Cr Tony Rayner*

*That Council record its sincere appreciation of the efforts of Council staff and supporting agencies engaged in the Longreach Local Disaster Coordination Centre during the recent flood event.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## 14 Communities Report

### 14.1 Community Grants - Individual

Considerations of applications received for the month of February in accordance with the Community Donation Policy 11.06.

*Res-2026-03-72*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Andrew Watts*

*That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program, in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.6, as follows:*

<b>Organisation/ Individual</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>
<i>Lily Worland</i>	<i>16 – 19 years North West Trials – Netball</i>	<i>06/03 – 07/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

<i>Lara Jackson</i>	<i>16 – 19 years North West Trials – Netball</i>	<i>06/03 – 07/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Jaylie Miller</i>	<i>16 – 19 years North West Trials – Netball</i>	<i>06/03 – 07/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Mia Scott</i>	<i>13-15 years North West Trials – Netball</i>	<i>06/03 – 07/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Mackenzie Simpson</i>	<i>13-19 years Swimming State Championships</i>	<i>22/03 – 24/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Archie Neuendorf</i>	<i>10 – 12 years Swimming State Championships</i>	<i>25/03 – 27/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Millie Solomon</i>	<i>10 – 12 years Swimming State Championships</i>	<i>25/03 – 27/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Rebekah Strong</i>	<i>SHEP Ensembles Program</i>	<i>28/03 – 30/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Sarah Strong</i>	<i>SHEP Ensembles Program</i>	<i>28/03 – 30/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Charlotte McDonald</i>	<i>SHEP Ensembles Program</i>	<i>27/03 – 29/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Isabella McDonald</i>	<i>SHEP Ensembles Program</i>	<i>27/03 – 29/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
<i>Prisca Ballin</i>	<i>SHEP Ensembles Program</i>	<i>27/03 – 29/03</i>	<i>\$350</i>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## 14.2 Sponsorship - Longreach Show Society

Consideration of sponsorship applications received in February in accordance with the Council's Sponsorship Policy No. 11.07.

*Res-2026-03-73*

*Moved: Cr Tony Emslie | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay*

*That Council approves the allocation of funds from the 2025/2026 Sponsorship budget, as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:*

<b>Organisation / Name</b>	<b>Event / Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>
<i>Longreach Show Society</i>	<i>Longreach Show</i>	<i>22/05 – 23/05/26</i>	<i>Financial \$7,500.00 In-Kind \$2,500.00</i>
			<b>TOTAL \$10,000.00</b>

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

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**Attendance:**

Liz Turner, Events and Marketing Coordinator left the meeting at 2:55pm

### 14.3 Information Report - Communities

This report provides an update on the range of activities that have occurred during the month for the Community Services Directorate.

*Res-2026-03-74*

*Moved: Cr Leonie Nunn | Seconded: Cr Tony Emslie*

*That Council receives the Communities Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

**Attendance:**

Joel Perry, Project Manager joined the meeting at 2:56pm

### 14.4 Project Management Update

Receive the project management update for the month of February 2026.

*Res-2026-03-75*

*Moved: Cr Tracy Hatch | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay*

*That Council receives the Project Management Update Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### 14.5 Director of Communities Report

This report provides an update on the activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Director of Communities.

*Res-2026-03-76*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Tracy Hatch*

*That Council receives the Director of Communities Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

**Attendance:**

Joel Perry, Project Manager left the meeting at 3:17pm

The meeting adjourned for a short recess at 3:18pm and resumed at 3:24pm with all those present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

## **15 Works Report**

### **15.1 Water Mains replacement since 2012**

This report documents the staged renewal and upgrade of Longreach's reticulated water mains network between 2012 and 2025, addressing ageing infrastructure, service reliability, fire protection, and future growth capacity.

*Res-2026-03-77*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council receives and notes the report.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### **15.2 Information Report - Works**

This report provides an update on the range of activities that have occurred during the month of February 2026 for the Works Directorate.

*Res-2026-03-78*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council receives the Works Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

### **15.3 Director of Works Report**

This report provides an update on the activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Director of Works. Please note that the format of the report has changed to follow a risk-based approach.

*Res-2026-03-79*

*Moved: Cr Tony Emslie | Seconded: Cr Nikki Gay*

*That Council receives the Director of Works Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

## **16 Late Items**

### **16.1 Requested letter of objection to proposed electoral redistribution**

Consideration of a request that Council write a letter of objection to the Queensland Redistribution Commission.

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

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*Res-2026-03-80*

*Moved: Cr Dale Bignell | Seconded: Cr Leonie Nunn*

*That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and submit a letter of objection to the Queensland Redistribution Commission, as requested by Blackall-Tambo Regional Council.*

*CARRIED 7 / 0*

**17 Closed Matters**

Nil

**18 Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at **4:22 pm.**

**Minutes Certificate**

These minutes are unconfirmed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cr AC Rayner  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer