



BOULIA SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING of the Boulia Shire Council held on Friday 24 April 2026 commencing at 9:00 am

1 Meeting Opening with the Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Please note:

In some instances, due to unforeseen circumstances, the sequence of the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the meeting day may vary from the order of the agenda issued. The corresponding meeting minutes will follow the outline of the originally issued agenda, however the resolution numbers noted will be in accordance with the actual sequence of the meeting on the day.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 8.47 am.

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional carers of the land on which Council meets, the 'Pitta Pitta' people, and paid Council's respects to the elders past and present.

The Mayor also acknowledged past and present service personnel.

It has been noted that the Mayor has reminded all Councillors in regards to registration of interests and declaration of contact with or engagement of lobbyists.

2 Present

Councillors: Councillor Eric (Rick) Britton
Councillor Sam Beauchamp
Councillor Jack Neilson
Councillor Jan Norton
Councillor Julie Woodhouse

Officers: Mr Shane Gray (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Gordon Magann (A/Director of Works and Operations)
Mrs Cassandra Schultz (Technical and Administration Support Officer – Works Depot)
Mrs Nicole Tonkies (Assistant to the CEO)

3 Apologies / Leave of Absence

There were no apologies or leaves of absence for this meeting.

5 Mayoral Minutes

There were no Mayoral Minutes to be noted at this meeting.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motions to be noted at this meeting.

7 Request to Address Council in a Public Forum

There were no requests to address the Council.

8 Petitions

There were no petitions presented to Council.

9 Deputations

April 2026 Deputations

Community Hub Project Manager Adam Britton and architects People Oriented Design (POD) joined the Council meeting via Teams to provide Council with an update on the project.

10 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Norton

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th March 2026 be accepted.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.1

Carried

4 Declaration of Interests

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Beauchamp

Councillor Britton and Councillor Woodhouse both declared a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in the following report/s in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*:

- Councillor Britton in the Closed Session report "Awarding of tender T2025-26.8 Coridgee Reserve (Paddock) Lease (Lot 7 on CP W163) due to being a neighbouring land holder to the paddock in question.

- Councillor Britton in the Closed Session report " Awarding of Tender T2025-26.9 Butchers Paddock Lease (Lot 27 on Crown Plan WI73) due to a close associate of his (second cousin) being an applicant for the tender.
- Councillor Woodhouse in the Closed Session report "Awarding of tender T2025-26.8 Coridgee Reserve (Paddock) Lease (Lot 7 on CP WI63) due to a close associate of hers (son) being an applicant for the tender.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, it was decided that Councillor Britton and Councillor Woodhouse would leave the meeting while the matters were discussed and not participate in the voting.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.2 **Carried**

Council's financial consultant Mr Anthony Ottoway and Council's Acting Chief Financial Officer Mr Michael Chow joined the meeting via Teams at 8.56 am.

11 Reports

11.3 Corporate Services

TITLE:	March Finance Report	DOC REF: 11.3.1
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PURPOSE:

To provide Council with the financial report for the period ended 31 March 2026.

Moved: Cr Britton **Seconded: Cr Woodhouse**

That Council notes the contents of the finance report: operating performance and the capital program performance report for the period ended 31 March 2026.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.3 **Carried**

Mr Ottoway and Mr Chow left the meeting at 9.35 am.

11.1 Works and Operations

TITLE:	Director of Works and Operations March 2026 Report	DOC REF: 11.1.1
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of relevant activities undertaken through the Works and Operations Directorate.

Moved: Cr Britton **Seconded: Cr Norton**

That the A/Director Works and Operations Report for March 2026 be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.4 **Carried**

TITLE:	QRA Flood Damage Report	DOC REF: 11.1.2
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Flood Damage Program for March 2026.

Moved: Cr Beauchamp

Seconded: Cr Britton

That the QRA Flood Damage Works Department March 2026 Report be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.5

Carried

12 Closed Session

CLOSED MEETING AT 9.52 AM

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council move into Closed Session in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012 section 254J (3) on the following provision:

- (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government;

Resolution No.: 2026/4.6

Carried

Councillor Woodhouse and Councillor Britton left the meeting at 9.52 am.

Councillor Britton and Councillor Woodhouse returned to the meeting at 10.10 am.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION AT 10.12 AM

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Beauchamp

It was resolved Council move out of the closed meeting, and adopt the recommendations discussed in closed committee.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.7

Carried

The following recommendations were resolved from the closed session: 2026/4.8, 2026/4.9.

12.1 Office of the Chief Executive

TITLE:	Awarding of tender T2025-26.8 Coridgee Reserve (Paddock) Lease (Lot 7 on CP W163)	DOC REF: 12.1.1
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PURPOSE:

To present to Council tender submissions received under T2025-26.8 Coridgee (Reserve) Paddock Lease and seek Council's direction on the awarding of the tender.

Closed under Local Government Regulation 2012 (254J (3)) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government

In accordance with resolution 2026/4.2, Councillor Britton and Councillor Woodhouse were not present when this item was discussed in the closed session of Council and did not vote on the matter.

Moved: Cr Beauchamp

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council accept the report on the Awarding of tender T2025-26.8 Coridgee Reserve (Paddock) Lease (Lot 7 on CP W163) and award the tender to Maryellen and Scott Blacket.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.8

Carried

TITLE:	Awarding of tender T2025-26.9 Butchers Paddock Lease (Lot 27 on Crown Plan W173)	DOC REF: 12.1.2
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PURPOSE:

To present to Council tender submissions received under T2025-26.9 Butcher's Paddock Lease and seek Council's direction on the awarding of the tender.

Closed under Local Government Regulation 2012 (254J (3)) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government

In accordance with resolution 2026/4.2, Councillor Britton was not present when this item was discussed in the closed session of Council and did not vote on the matter.

Moved: Cr Norton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council accept the report on the Awarding of tender T2025-26.9 Butchers Paddock Lease (Lot 27 on Crown Plan W173) and award the tender to Anthony Britton.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.9

Carried

Community Hub Project Manager Adam Britton and architects People Oriented Design (POD) joined the Council meeting via Teams at 10.20 am. Council was presented with an update regarding the Community Hub project.

Mr Adam Britton and POD left the meeting at 10.50am.

Council adjourned the meeting for lunch at 10.51 am.

Council resumed the meeting at 11.14 am.

11.2 Office of the Chief Executive

TITLE:	Chief Executive Officers Report for March 2026	DOC REF: 11.2.1
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of relevant activities undertaken through the office of the CEO.

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Britton

That the CEO Report for March 2026 be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.10

Carried

TITLE:	Action List Update March 2026	DOC REF: 11.2.2
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PURPOSE:

To present to Council an updated Action List.

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Norton

That Council receive the Action List update for March 2026 for information.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.11

Carried

Mr Ottoway rejoined the meeting via Teams at 12.17 pm to present and discuss with Council their first strategic budget document for the 2026-2027 period.

Mr Ottoway left the meeting at 1.34 pm.

TITLE:	3rd Quarter Operational Plan Review (January to March 2026)	DOC REF: 11.2.3
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PURPOSE:

To present the third quarter Operational Plan Review for January to March 2026.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

1. That Council receive for information the third quarter Operational Plan review from January to March 2026 in relation to the adopted Operational Plan 2025-2026.
2. That the report be displayed on the Council website.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.12

Carried

11.4 Economic and Community Development

TITLE:	Library Report for March 2026	DOC REF: 11.4.2
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PURPOSE:

To report on the day-to-day operations of the Boulia Shire Library.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Woodhouse

1. That the Library Report for March 2026 be received for information.
2. That Council agree to change the Channel Country Chatter (CCC) distribution from monthly to every second month.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.13

Carried

TITLE:	Min Min Encounter & Boulia Heritage Complex Report March 2026	DOC REF: 11.4.2
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PURPOSE:

To report on the day-to-day operations of the Min Min Encounter (MME) and Boulia Heritage Complex (BHC) and to promote tourism in the Shire and surrounding region.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That the Min Min Encounter & Boulia Heritage Complex Report for the March 2026 Council Meeting be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.14

Carried

13 Late Reports

TITLE:	Heavy Vehicle Rest Area Trance 08 - Funding Application	DOC REF: 13.1
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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement for the preparation and submission of a funding application under the Heavy Vehicle Rest Area initiative to construct a Donohue Highway Rest Area.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Norton

That Council approves for the Chief Executive Officer to coordinate the necessary resources to prepare and submit a grant funding application in the Heavy Vehicle Rest Area (HVRA) initiative, part of the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (SLRIP), for the construction of a rest stop on the Donohue Highway.

Resolution No.: 2026/4.15

Carried

14 General Business

2026 WTF (What's the Future) Boulia Community Survey results - CEO briefed the Councillors on the results of the community survey. Community meeting to be held in May.

Additional Councillor comments and feedback will be noted in the 'Action List' which will be presented at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

15 Meeting Closure

The Mayor closed the meeting at 3 pm.

16 Confirmed

Minutes confirmed 22nd May 2026
Resolution No.: 2026/5.1