



# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, 18 November 2025**

**I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on:**

**Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

**Location: Council Chambers, Estates Building Cressy Street  
Deniliquin**

**Jack Bond  
Chief Executive Officer**

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**1. OPENING MEETING**

Meeting opened at 10.00am

**2. ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Mayor Cr Ashley Hall, Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley, Cr Craig Druitt, Cr Ken Bates, Cr Shirlee Burge, Cr Frank Schofield, Cr Leanne Mulham, Cr Shannon Sampson, Cr Linda Fawns, Chief Executive Officer Jack Bond

**In Attendance:** Director Infrastructure, Director Corporate Services, Manager Community & Economy, Manager Finance, Executive Assistance

**Via Teams:** Brad Bohun from 10am to 10.11am

**Gallery:** One

**3. LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT**

Edward River Council wishes to advise members of the public that Council meetings will be recorded and will be available after each meeting on Council's website [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au) All care will be taken to maintain the privacy of those in attendance, however as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining in the public gallery, it is assumed your consent is given in the event your image is broadcast. This includes any filming by television cameras if attendance is approved by the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor.

**4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Edward River Council acknowledges and embraces the Traditional Owners of the Lands within the Edward River Council area - the Wamba Wamba/Perrepa Perrepa Peoples - and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging. The Edward River Council also recognises the diversity of different cultures within our community and their contribution.

**5. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS**

Nil

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****6.1. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21 OCTOBER 2025**

Moved: Cr Craig Druitt

Seconded: Cr Shirlee Burge

**RESOLUTION 2025/2110/6.1**

That Council receive and note the draft minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held Tuesday 21 October 2025.

**CARRIED**

**7. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/7**

Item 11.5 Cr Leanne Mulham disclosed a potential pecuniary interest and will leave the Chambers during discussion.

Item 11.5 Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley disclosed a potential pecuniary interest and will leave the Chambers during discussion.

Item 12.4 Cr Craig Druitt disclosed a Non-Pecuniary-Less than significant interest and will remain within the Chambers.

**CARRIED**

**8. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)**

Nil

**9. ALTERATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley

Seconded: Cr Frank Schofield

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/9**

That Council, under Clause 8.2 of the current Council's Code of Meeting Practice, alter the order of business to bring forward Item 12.6 "Presentation of 2024-25 Financial Statements to the Public" and Item 11.7 "September Quarter Budget Review" for earlier consideration while we have the opportunity to have the auditor join via Teams and the Manager Finance in the Chambers.

**CARRIED**

Auditor Brad Brohun left the meeting at 10.11am

**9.1. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

Nil

**10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****10.1. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CONARGO HALL COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Frank Schofield

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/10.1**

That Council receives the draft minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee Annual General Meeting held Wednesday 22nd October 2025 and welcomes the new and returning Committee Members.

**CARRIED**

Manager Finance left the meeting at 10.36am

**10.2. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MAYRUNG HALL COMMITTEE**

Moved: Cr Ken Bats

Seconded: Cr Linda Fawns

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/10.2**

That Council receives the draft minutes of the Mayrung Hall Committee meeting held Thursday 30th October 2025.

**CARRIED**

**11. REPORTS TO COUNCIL****11.1. 2025 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

Moved: Cr Leanne Mulham

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.1**

That Council:

1. Prior to endorsing the updated ERC Code of Meeting Practice included in Attachment 3 to this report; that the following changes are made:

- a) Change scheduled Review date to March 2029
  - b) Include at 3.7 the following note under this clause (Note: CEO will seek to have the agenda and business papers sent 7 days prior to Ordinary Meeting.)
  - c) Section 18 Time limits on Council Meetings is removed completely from the Code
  - d) Throughout the document change reference of general manager to Chief Executive Officer
2. Approves placing the endorsed ERC Code of Meeting Practice on public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days and invites comments from members of the community regarding the updated code; and
3. Subject to any feedback received, adopts the updated ERC Code of Meeting Practice.

**CARRIED**

**11.2. 2026 SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Frank Schofield

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.2**

That Council adopt the proposed 2026 schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings.

1. Meetings will be held at 9am the **fourth** Tuesday of each month between February and November 2026.
2. The December 2026 meeting to be held the second Tuesday, 8 December 2026 at 9am.
3. Workshops dates will be scheduled on the **second** Tuesday of each month at 9am between February and November 2026. The January 2026 Workshop will be held on the fourth Tuesday being January 27, 2026. Noting Workshop dates may change without a further Council Resolution.
4. To increase engagement with our rural communities correspondence will be undertaken asking when they would like Council to visit.

Against: Cr Leanne Mulham

**CARRIED 1/8**

**11.3. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley

Seconded: Cr Craig Druitt

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.3**

That Council

1. Endorse the 2024/2025 Annual Report
2. Note that the endorsed Audited Financial Statements will be appended to the 2024/2025 Annual Report
3. Note that the 2024/2025 Annual Report will be placed on Council's website and submitted to the NSW Office of Local Government by 30 November 2025

**CARRIED**

**11.4. END STREET TREES**

Moved: Cr Shirlee Burge

Seconded: Cr Frank Schofield

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.4**

That Council:

1. Retains all five street trees listed in the October 2025 report,
2. Considers landscaping works recommended in the report for inclusion in the 2026/27 Operational Plan, and

3. Receives a further report regarding a review of the Street Tree policy and associated management practices by June 2026.

**CARRIED**

Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley and Cr Leanne Mulham left the Chambers at 11.24am

### **11.5. RENEWABLE ENERGY POSITION STATEMENTS**

Moved: Cr Shirlee Burge

Seconded: Cr Craig Druitt

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.5**

That Council endorse the Edward River Council Renewable Energy Position Statements to provide a consistent response for all stakeholders of the renewable energy developments within the Edward River Council Local Government Area.

**CARRIED**

11.27am Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley and Cr Leanne Mulham returned to the Chambers

### **11.6. RIVER REGION EARLY EDUCATION CHILDCARE PROJECT**

Moved: Cr Craig Druitt

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.6**

That Council:

1. Authorises Council officers to explore a Peppercorn Lease arrangement with River Region Early Education (RREE) for the development of a 110-place childcare facility at Perrin Park, noting this site has been identified by officers as suitable and appropriately zoned land for such a use; and
2. Notes that the final lease agreement will be presented to Council for formal consideration and approval prior to execution.

**CARRIED**

Director Corporate Services left the Chambers at 11.29am and returned at 11.31am

### **11.7. SEPTEMBER QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW**

Moved Cr Craig Druitt

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/11.7**

That Council

1. Adopt the September 2025 Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) and the Responsible Accounting Officer's report on the financial position of the Council (Attachment 1).



2. Approve the increase of Other Revenue by \$1k and Materials and Services expenditure of \$1k and the reduction in materials and services by \$40,000
3. Councillors will participate in a Financial Workshop and the financial report will be brought back to Council's December meeting.
4. That any errors in the report are rectified prior to lodging with the Office of Local Government.

**CARRIED**

## **12. REPORTS FOR NOTING**

### **12.1. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.1**

That Council receive and note the Capital Works Progress Report update.

**CARRIED**

### **12.2. MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - OCTOBER 2025**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.2**

That Council notes the funded projects report for October 2025.

**CARRIED**

### **12.3. COMMUNITY AND ECONOMY GRANTS UPDATE OCTOBER 2025**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.3**

That Council receive and note the Community and Economy Grants Update - October 2025

**CARRIED**

### **12.4. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.4**

That Council receive and note the Development Services Report for October 2025

**CARRIED**

**12.5. INVESTMENT REPORT - OCTOBER 2025**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.5**

That Council receive and note the Investment Report for October 2025

**CARRIED**

**12.6. PRESENTATION OF 2024-25 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE PUBLIC**

Moved: Cr Schofield

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.6**

That Council:

Receive and note the audited Financial Statements together with the auditor's reports for the year ended 30 June 2025, in accordance with Section 417 and 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993

**CARRIED**

**12.7. SOUTHERN RIVERINA DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLAN UPDATE**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.7**

That Council receive and note the November update on the Southern Riverina Drought Resilience Plan Project.

**CARRIED**

**12.8. RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL AS AT 7 NOVEMBER 2025**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Ken Bates

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/12.8**

That Council note the information in the Resolutions of Council as at 7 November 2025.

**CARRIED**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Nil

**14. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

**15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Moved: Cr Craig Druitt

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson at 11.54am

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/15**

That Council move into Confidential to consider the matters listed in the confidential section of the agenda in accordance with Section 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the reasons specified as follows:-

- d(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

At this stage, the time being 11.54 Council closed the meeting to the public.

**CARRIED**

The member of the gallery left the Chambers and did not return.

**15.1. CONTRACT C2025.08 - DELIVERY OF CLEANING SERVICES AND SANITARY WASTE MANAGEMENT ACROSS EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL FACILITIES AND PUBLIC AMENITIES**

Moved: Cr Frank Schofield

Seconded: Cr Linda Fawns

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/15.1**

That Council defers the report to the next Council meeting including additional background information, alternative options, including a reduction in scope within budget and clarification with the Tenderers.

**16. CLOSE OF MEETING**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Kellie Crossley

Seconded: Cr Craig Druitt

**RESOLUTION 2025/1811/16**

That Council move out of Confidential business at 12.16pm and that the Chief Executive Officer will read the resolution.

**CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 11.17am