



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council

Thursday 26 February 2026

4:00 PM

Yass High School

Grampian Street, YASS

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Council Meeting - The Mayor declared the meeting open at 4.02pm.

Present

Councillors Jasmin Jones (Mayor), Cecil Burgess, Kristin Butler (Deputy Mayor), Alvaro Charry, Fleur Flanery, Adrian Cameron, David Rothwell, David Carter and Allan McGrath.

Officers also present were Peta Gardiner(Acting Chief Executive Officer), Andrew Neil (Director of Planning & Environment), Nathan Cooke (Director of Infrastructure & Assets), Jason McGuire (Chief Financial Officer), Caitlin Flint (Senior Advisor Governance), Chloe Johnson (Executive Support Officer) and Katie Yeo (Learning & Development Officer).

Acknowledgement of Country

Yass Valley Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continued connection to land, waters, skies and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Yass Valley Local Government Area.

Prayer

1. Councillor Request for Attendance via Audio-Visual

NIL

2. Apologies

NIL

Motion

RESOLVED that an apology be received for Councillor Cameron to join the meeting late.

(McGrath/Charry)

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

At 4.04pm Councillor Cameron joined the meeting.

3. Declaration of Interest/Disclosures

Councillor Jones, declared a Non-Pecuniary – Less than Significant Interest and will remain in the meeting in Item 6.7 YVC.PE.57.2025 Murrumbateman All Abilities Playground Construction.

Reason: Family is on the St Clements Parish Council, The Diocese owns the land being leased.

Councillor Jones, wished to place on record that the previous conflict of interest relating to the consideration of this matter is now extinguished. The Mayor will remain in the meeting to vote on Item 6.1 Review of Determination – Dazzle Dance – 26 Rose Street, Murrumbateman.

Reason: Child no longer attends the business for classes.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 December 2025 covered by resolution numbers 414-439 inclusive, copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed.

(Flanery/Burgess) 1

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

5. Mayoral Minute

5.1 SHINGLE HILL WAY & FEDERAL HWY INTERSECTION ADVOCACY

SUMMARY

Shingle Hill Way & Federal HWY intersection advocacy.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council acknowledges the Gundaroo RFS advocacy on the need for a coordinated approach to the intersection which straddles several jurisdictions, along with the YVC coordinated on-site meetings between Gundaroo and Wamboin RFS crews, YVC and QPRC Mayors and executive leadership, NSW Police, and Transport for NSW.***
- 2. Council supports further collaborative advocacy to the State and Federal Governments to prioritise a full upgrade to the Federal HWY-Shingle Hill Way intersection as a strategic response to the 2023 completion of the State and Federal Government \$4.4 million investment in and completion of the Shingle Hill Way bridge upgrade.***
- 3. Council brings to the attention of the State Government that the accommodation of Higher Mass Load (HML) vehicles and raising to a 166-tonne load limit of the Shingle Hill Way bridge creates a duty of care for the NSW Government to upgrade the state-managed highway intersection tie-in. This is necessary to mitigate the associated increased risks of nearby infrastructure supporting increased freight productivity and high-volume traffic—including caravans, horse floats, and agricultural truck movements—while ensuring the safety of emergency services response personnel.***

(Jones/Burgess) 2

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

5.2 CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR OF WAVERLEY, CR WILL NEMESH

SUMMARY

Bondi Condolence Message Book from Yass Valley presented to The Hon. Wendy Tuckerman.

Correspondence to and from Waverley Mayor Clr Will Nemesh

Letter of thanks to NSW RSL for the Yass Sub-Branch's support of the Bondi Candlelight Vigil in Yass

RESOLVED that Council notes Yass Valley Council fulfilled its December 18 resolution in leading our community in a nationally signalled evening of prayer, reflection, and togetherness with a Candlelight Vigil at Yass Soldiers' Memorial Hall & Shrine in December.

On behalf of Council, I wrote to Waverley Mayor Clr Will Nemesh expressing our community's deepest condolences and unwavering solidarity following the anti-Semitic massacre at Bondi Beach on December 14, 2025. Correspondence tabled.

I received a letter from Mayor Nemesh expressing his and Waverley Council's deep appreciation of our support. Correspondence tabled.

On behalf of Council, I also wrote to NSW RSL thanking the Yass RSL Sub-Branch for their support and assistance with the Candlelight Vigil, supported by our Combined Churches and attended by The Hon. Michael McCormack, Yass Police & Emergency Services and 130 members of the public including Jewish residents and their Rabbi. Correspondence tabled.

On the 26th January, The Yass Valley Condolence Book of messages was presented to the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP for further coordination through NSW Parliament.

(Jones/McGrath) 3

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Charry and F Flanery

5.3 LONG SERVICE AWARD FORMAL COMMENDATION AND RECOGNITION

SUMMARY

Two of our longest serving councillors have received due recognition for their long and distinguished service in local government with thirty-year certificates and medals recently presented.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Commends the long service recognition awarded to Councillor Allan McGrath and former Mayor for his service across the Yass Valley and Queanbeyan-Palerang local government areas, and Councillor Cecil Burgess OAM for his continuous service to Yass Valley.***
- 2. Formally congratulates both individuals on the presentation of their Local Government Association certificates and Long Service Medals at the 2026 Australia Day Ceremony.***
- 3. Extends its thanks to QPRC Mayor Clr Kenrick Winchester and Emeritus Mayor Rowena Abbey OAM for their participation in the award ceremony.***

(McGrath/Burgess) 4

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6. Reports to Council – Supplementary Report

6.22 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026 MOTIONS

SUMMARY

The Australian Local Government Association is the peak national body representing local councils across Australia. The 2026 National General Assembly of ALGA will be held in Canberra between 23 and 25 June 2026.

RESOLVED that Council submit the following motions to the Australian Local Government Association for consideration at the 2026 National General Assembly of ALGA:

- ***Establish a dedicated national fund specifically for the repair, replacement, and upgrade of ageing Olympic-style swimming pools operating as council-managed public assets (Motion 1)***
- ***Increase the Financial Assistance Grants to 1% of Federal Taxation Revenue (Motion 2)***
- ***Advocate for Council access to the National Messaging System for targeted emergency alerts (Motion 3)***
- ***Restoration of Funding for The Green Army or similar grassroots program supporting First Nations & Council collaborations (Motion 4)***
- ***Introduction of a national standard for tree management practices conducted by energy infrastructure maintenance bodies and their contractors (Motion 5)***

(Cameron/Butler) 5

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.1 REVIEW OF DETERMINATION - DAZZLE DANCE - 26 ROSE STREET, MURRUMBATEMAN

SUMMARY

To present a review of the determination of DA230577B which relates to the approved hours of operation for 'Dazzle Dance' dance school at Lot 1 DP 1291221, 26 Rose Street, Murrumbateman. The application attracted 32 unique submissions. It is recommended a consent is issued with modified hours of operation.

AMENDMENT:

1. *That Modified Development Consent (DA237577B) at Lot 1 DP 1291221, 26 Rose Street, Murrumbateman be granted to operate within the following hours:*

<i>Day</i>	<i>Hours of Operation</i>
<i>Monday to Friday</i>	<i>9am to 9pm</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>9am to 5pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>10am to 4pm</i>
<i>Public Holidays</i>	<i>No operation</i>

2. *That Dazzle Dance Murrumbateman, located at 26 Rose St Murrumbateman, is permitted to operate 9am - 9pm on the Anzac Day public holiday Monday 27th April 2026 and the Kings Birthday Public holiday Monday 8th June 2026.*

Butler/Rothwell

That the amendment be moved separately for item 6.1.

(Butler/Rothwell) 6

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillor A Cameron

RESOLVED that Modified Development Consent (DA237577B) at Lot 1 DP 1291221, 26 Rose Street, Murrumbateman be granted to operate within the following hours:

<i>Day</i>	<i>Hours of Operation</i>
<i>Monday to Friday</i>	<i>9am to 9pm</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>9am to 5pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>10am to 4pm</i>
<i>Public Holidays</i>	<i>No operation</i>

(Butler/Rothwell) 7

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron, A Charry and F Flanery

RESOLVED that Dazzle Dance Murrumbateman, located at 26 Rose St Murrumbateman, is permitted to operate 9am - 9pm on the Anzac Day public holiday Monday 27th April 2026 and the Kings Birthday Public holiday Monday 8th June 2026.

(Butler/Rothwell) 8

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Charry, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron, D Carter and F Flanery

6.2 REVIEW OF DETERMINATION - 7 HANLEY PLACE, YASS

SUMMARY

To present a review of the determination of development application DA250320 for six (6) attached dwellings at Lot 1 DP1193382, 7 Hanley Place, Yass. The application for review attracted 19 unique submissions, 15 in favour of the development and 4 opposed, and relevant conditions can be imposed to mitigate these impacts. Approval is recommended.

RECOMMENDATION

That conditional development consent be issued for Development Application No DA250320 for six (6) attached dwellings at Lot 1 DP 1193382, 7 Hanley Place, Yass, subject to additional conditions which require the community title subdivision to be registered prior to the issue of any Occupation Certificate.

(Jones/Burgess)

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, J Jones and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery and A McGrath

The Motion was lost and subsequently lapsed

6.3 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT DA035019D - DISCOVERY DRIVE RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION (STAGE 3) - 63 DISCOVERY DRIVE, YASS

SUMMARY

To present the assessment of a request to modify development consent DA035019D (19/2003A) for the staged residential subdivision at Discovery Drive, Yass. Stages 1 and 2 of the subdivision have already been completed, with the modification relating to Stage 3 on Lot 63 DP 1071431, with the subject land lot accessible via Discovery Drive.

The modification seeks to amend the internal road layout and lot configuration within the Stage 3 subdivision. The number of residential lots remains unchanged at seven, with all proposed lots achieving the minimum 1,000m² lot size in accordance with the Yass Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013 (the LEP). A revised cul-de-sac design replaces a previously approved through-road and provides for improved lot configuration, and a pedestrian laneway to maintain walkability, pedestrian movement and emergency access. The modification application attracted five submissions during the exhibition period.

Given Yass Valley Council is the landowner of the site, Port Stephens Council have been engaged to undertake the assessment as a third-party independent assessor.

Approval is recommended.

RESOLVED that Development Consent No. DA035019 be modified for Stage 3 of the subdivision at [63] Discovery Drive, Yass, subject to modified conditions which include for a footpath to be constructed to Hume Street.

(Carter/Butler) 9

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron and A Charry

6.4 DRAFT PARKWOOD DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2026

SUMMARY

At the Council meeting of 20 December 2023 it was resolved to prepare a Development Control Plan to guide development of the area covered by the Yass Valley Local Environmental Plan (Parkwood) 2020. This report seeks Council's resolution to place the draft Parkwood Development Control Plan 2026 (Parkwood DCP) on exhibition.

RESOLVED that the draft Parkwood Development Control Plan 2026 be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

(Cameron/Charry) 10

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.5 PLANNING PROPOSAL - 1600 YASS VALLEY WAY YASS (PP-2025-2358)

SUMMARY

To present a report on a draft Planning Proposal seeking an amendment to the land use zoning under the Yass Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013 for Lot 1 DP 541974, 1600 Yass Valley Way, Yass.

RESOLVED that Council

- 1. Endorse the Planning Proposal for Lot 1 DP 541974, 1600 Yass Valley Way, Yass.***
- 2. Forward the draft Planning Proposal to the Minister for Planning to request a Gateway Determination pursuant to s3.34 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.***

(McGrath/Charry) 11

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.6 PLANNING PROPOSAL - 91 GUISE STREET, SUTTON (PP-2025-1997)

SUMMARY

To present a report on a draft Planning Proposal seeking an amendment to the land use zoning under the Yass Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013 for Lot A DP 399029, Lots 107 and 317 DP 754882 and Lot 4 DP 1010009, 91 Guise Street, Sutton.

RESOLVED that Council

- 1. Endorse the Planning Proposal for Lot A DP 399029, Lots 107 and 317 DP 754882 and Lot 4 DP 1010009, 91 Guise Street, Sutton.**
- 2. Forward the draft Planning Proposal to the Minister for Planning to request a Gateway Determination pursuant to s3.34 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.**

(Jones/Rothwell) 12

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron and F Flanery

Motion

RESOLVED that Item 6.7 YVC.PE.57.2025 Murrumbateman All Abilities Playground Construction be moved into Closed Session under section 10(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993 as a result of the Tender Evaluation Plan subsequent tender amounts needing to be discussed which would be on balance, contrary to the public interest and fairness of the tender process.

(Carter/Charry)

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillor A Cameron

6.8 DRAFT SUTTON RECREATION GROUND STRATEGIC PLAN 2025

SUMMARY

To present the outcomes of the consultation period for the draft Sutton Recreation Ground Strategic Plan 2025.

It is recommended that the draft strategic plan is adopted (**Attachment A**).

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. adopts the Draft Sutton Recreation Ground Strategic Plan 2025;**
- 2. undertakes an annual review of the Strategic Plan, incorporating feedback from the Sutton community and ensuring consistency with relevant Council policies and strategic documents; and**
- 3. reaffirms its commitment to work alongside and in support of the Sutton community to ensure that community views are properly considered in the implementation of the Recreation Ground Strategic Plan.**

(Charry/Cameron) 13

At 6.15pm Councillor Cameron left the Chamber.

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor A Cameron

6.9 DRAFT WALKER PARK STRATEGIC PLAN 2025

SUMMARY

To present the draft Walker Park Strategic Plan 2025 for endorsement to be publicly exhibited for 28 days.

RESOLVED that Council endorse the draft Walker Park Strategic Plan 2025 for public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and if no submissions are received, the strategy be adopted.

(Carter/Charry) 14

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor A Cameron

At 6.18pm Councillor Cameron returned to the Chambers.

6.10 ROSSI STREET - STREET TREES

SUMMARY

To present an update on the two London Plane trees and one White Cedar tree along Rossi Street, Yass.

RESOLVED that Valley Council continues its advocacy to Essential Energy for a review of and seeking alternate pruning measures particularly for mature street trees.

At 6.18pm Councillor Cameron returned to the Chamber

(Butler/McGrath) 15

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.11 PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

SUMMARY

To seek Council endorsement to proceed with community engagement regarding the Pesticide Use Notification Plan (the Plan). The Plan sets out how the Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by Council and its contractors in public places.

RESOLVED that Council endorse the Pesticide Notification Plan for public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and if no submission are received, the plan be adopted.

(Burgess/Butler) 16

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.12 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION UPDATE - DECEMBER 2025 AND JANUARY 2026

SUMMARY

To present details of council's performance against the expectations set by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and to provide details of applications lodged and determined in December 2025 and January 2026.

RESOLVED that information presented in the report and accompanying attachment be noted.

(Carter/Charry) 17

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.13 HEAT WAVE - FREE POOL ENTRY

SUMMARY

In accordance with a Council resolution from the February 2020 Council meeting, the Yass and Binalong pools allowed for free entry on days where the expected temperature was 40°C or above.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes the impact on the 2025/26 operational costs associated with the operation of the Yass and Binalong Pools as a result of the 'free entry' days in January 2026.***
- 2. Notes that the recent five-day free access provided at the Yass and Binalong pools included days that fell outside the 2020 40-degree Celsius policy threshold upon request of the Mayor and the CEO.***

3. *Recognises that this variation was an important response to the sustained heatwave conditions and the cumulative impact on the community, particularly during the school holiday period that continued until classes commenced on 2 February 2026.*
4. *A review of the current policy be conducted prior to the next swimming season. This review should consider options for appropriate temperature thresholds and cumulative impact of hot days to trigger free entry, and the associated budget implications, noting that any further negative impacts on the budget must be presented as a quarterly variation if not factored in as an emergency fund within the 26-27 operational budget.*
5. *Complete an end of season further analysis of attendance, pool entry fees, and canteen sales for the remainder of the swimming season following the six free days (including Australia Day). This should inform if increased promotion of the pool, uptake in community positive perception and increased participation contributed to a pattern of sustained increase in paid attendance overall and whether the initial \$10,000 loss could be considered recouped, in whole or part, when compared to traditional seasonal data.*
6. *Be presented with a draft Corporate Sponsorship Policy which considers the ability of Council to seek pre-arranged sponsorship for the seasonal cost of lifeguards to offset entirely or partially the cost in exchange for corporate branding inclusion on uniform, signage, social media and website communications and discovers other areas of the Organisation which could also qualify for Corporate Sponsorship arrangements.*

(Jones/Rothwell) 18

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

Motion

RESOLVED that the meeting be extended by 1hr and adjourn for a 5 minute break at 6.48pm.

(Carter/Cameron) 19

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

Motion

RESOLVED that the meeting be resumed at 6.56pm.

(Carter/Cameron) 20

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

Suspension of Standing Orders

RESOLVED that Standing Orders be suspended in order to bring forward the following items to be dealt with at this time:

- **Item 6.14 Yass Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project - Implementation - Bi-Monthly Update Report**
- **Item 6.15 Report on the 2025/26 Operational Plan**
- **Item 6.18 2025/26 Second Quarter Review Statement**
- **Item 6.20 Investment and Borrowing Report**
- **Item 6.21 Post-Exhibition Policy Report - Hardship & Financial Assistance Policy and Managing Unreasonable Conduct Towards YVC and its Employees Policy**
- **Item 9.1 Minutes of the Rescue Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025**
- **Item 9.3 Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025**

(Jones/Carter) 21

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.14 YASS WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE PROJECT - IMPLEMENTATION - BI-MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT

SUMMARY

To provide Council with an update on the Yass Water Treatment Plant Upgrade and Water Reticulation Improvement Projects.

RESOLVED that Council notes the updated report and work completed on the Yass Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project.

(Jones/Carter) 22

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.15 REPORT ON THE 2025/26 OPERATIONAL PLAN

SUMMARY

In addition to the requirements required under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council has committed to providing, every quarter, a report on progress against the actions and activities identified in its Operational Plan. This report contains the status of actions and activities for Quarter 2 2025-2026.

RESOLVED that the Quarter 2 update for the 2025-2026 Operational Plan be noted.

(Jones/Carter) 23

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

Motion

RESOLVED that Item 6.16 Advisory Committee Membership be moved into closed session under Section 10(A)(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 given the discussion will relate to the personal information of some applicants and their suitability for recommended Committees. Discussion in open Council would be on balance, contrary to the public interest.

(Charry/McGrath)

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.18 2025/26 SECOND QUARTER REVIEW STATEMENT

SUMMARY

This report represents the 2025-26 Second Quarter Budget Review Statement (QBR2) for the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025. The review demonstrates Council's projected year end consolidated Net Operating Result before Capital items remains negative and is predicted to be (\$1.2M) compared to the revised consolidated budgeted deficit of (\$1.5M) at following the First Quarter Budget Review (QBR1). Actual results as at 31 December 2025 show a surplus of \$8.4M due to rate and annual charges recognised in July with expenses evenly spread across the year.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes the 2025-26 Second Quarter Budget Review.**
- 2. Adopts the adjustments detailed in the 2025-26 Second Quarter Budget Review Statement.**
- 3. In accordance with the Local Government (General Regulation (NSW) Clause 203 (2)(a), Council notes its financial position as at 31 December 2025 as being satisfactory, having regard to revised projected estimates of income and expenditure from this review.**

4. Notes that the 2025-26 Second Quarter Budget Review Statement will be provided to the Office of Local Government.

(Jones/Carter) 24

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.20 INVESTMENT AND BORROWING REPORT

SUMMARY

In accordance with clause 212 *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, this report provides a summary of Council's investments for the period 1 to 31 January 2026. In accordance with paragraph (1) (b), it can be certified that the investments listed have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

The Investment and Borrowing Report for December 2025 is attached for information.

RESOLVED that the Investment & Borrowings Reports, covering the period 1 to 31 January 2026 be noted.

(Jones/Carter) 25

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.21 POST-EXHIBITION POLICY REPORT - HARDSHIP & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY AND MANAGING UNREASONABLE CONDUCT TOWARDS YVC AND ITS EMPLOYEES POLICY

SUMMARY

Council, at the meeting of 27 November 2025 resolved to place the following policies on public exhibition for 28 days.

- Hardship and Financial Assistance Policy (**Resolution 392/25**)
- Managing Unreasonable Conduct towards YVC and its Employees Policy (**Resolution 391/25**)

Given both policies attracted one submission each during the consultation period, they are being reported back to Council, with changes where determined necessary, for final adoption.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Adopt the Hardship and Financial Assistance Policy.***
- 2. Adopt the Managing Unreasonable Conduct towards YVC and its Employees Policy.***

(Jones/Carter) 26

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

9.1 MINUTES OF THE RESCUE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2025 AND 21 AUGUST 2025.

REPORT

The minutes of the Rescue Committee meetings held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025 are included as **Attachments A and B**.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Committee provides advice and recommendations to Council only, with no decision-making delegations. Therefore, actions identified in the attached minutes will require the formal approval by Council before any commitment or adjustment to the Operational Plan / Budget is made.

Accordingly, the minutes are presented for information.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Rescue Committee meetings held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025 be noted.

(Jones/Carter) 27

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

9.3 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2025 AND 21 AUGUST 2025.

REPORT

The minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meetings held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025 are included as **Attachments A and B**.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Committee provides advice and recommendations to Council only, with no decision-making delegations. Therefore, actions identified in the attached minutes will require the formal approval by Council before any commitment or adjustment to the Operational Plan / Budget is made.

Accordingly, the minutes are presented for information.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held on 8 May 2025 and 21 August 2025 be noted.

(Jones/Carter) 28

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.17 UPDATE ON TRANSFER OF TELEGRAPH CLOSE, YASS

SUMMARY

To provide Council with an update on the sale of Telegraph Close Yass in accordance with Council Resolution 23 October 2025 (**Resolution 367/25**).

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council set aside Resolution 367/25 noting the additional information supplied by the landowner.**
- 2. A refund of the \$1,000 paid to Council by the landowner on 28 June 2024 be processed given there was no formal agreement for which it be charged and therefore accepted.**
- 3. Any Land Registry Service (LRS) documentation associated with the transfer of the land to Bellevalle Cattle Company Pty Ltd and resulting closure of the road reserve be executed by the CEO when required.**

(McGrath/Carter) 29

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.19 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

SUMMARY

This monthly financial report provides information about Council's financial position at the end of January 2026 with the full year and year-to-date budgets reflecting the budgets adopted as part of the First Quarter Budget Review (QBR1). The report also includes a variance analysis against the full-year and budget year to date. An Investment and Borrowing Report is prepared and is presented to Council as a separate report.

The monthly finance report for December 2025 is attached for information.

RESOLVED that the Monthly Financial Report for January 2026 be noted.

(Rothwell/Charry) 30

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

7. Notice of Motion

7.1 PROPOSED CHANGES TO USER CHARGES - COUNCIL SPORTING GROUNDS 2026/2027

Councillor Fleur Flanery has given notice that at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 February 2026, she will move the following motion.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Adopts a cost recovery of 15 % of annual operational costs as the basis for calculating fees for annual sports and equestrian user groups in accordance with the Asset Management Strategy 2022- 2033***
- 2. Agrees that no individual sporting club's fee increases by more than 30% when compared to the previous financial year***
- 3. Agrees no individual sporting club pays less than the fee charged in the last financial year, 2024/25***
- 4. Reaffirms that the Yass Valley Council is committed to supporting local sporting and equestrian clubs and will work to reduce their operational maintenance costs of the sporting grounds through setting service levels in conjunction with the newly formed Sporting Clubs' Committee.***

(Flanery/Butler) 31

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

8. Questions with Notice

8.1 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE - CR FLEUR FLANERY

Question 1

Given the recommendation for Yass Council to have a Tree Management Strategy has been on-going for more than a decade, why is consultation occurring before a scope has been provided to and agreed by Councillors?

Response

On 24 July 2025, Council resolved to:

RESOLUTION [247]

Develop a Tree Management Strategy in the current term of Council that prioritises:

- The retention of non-invasive trees the Shire in towns, villages and its roadways.***
- New tree planting in streets and parks to improve amenity and environmental outcomes***
- Replacement of dangerous and declining trees with trees better suited to the environment.***
- Removal of exotic invasive trees on public land near environmentally sensible locations ie the Yass Gorge and other locations to be specified***

- ***Replanting of trees that have been removed with native species endemic to the area where possible***
- ***Develop a list of trees suitable for the region to guide future planting in new development areas and replanting programs***
- ***Maintenance of street trees to Australian Standards***

This Resolution was essentially a ‘work order’ to the CEO to progress this body of work and the subsequent engagement of a consultant via a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process.

The RFQ containing a scope of works is something within the delegation and remit of the CEO and Council Officers and it is not common or usual practice for an RFQ scope to be “agreed” by Councillors.

Resolution [247] was viewed as the scope provided by Council for Officers to act. Notwithstanding, the intention was always for extensive community engagement to take place to ensure any resulting Strategy was fit for purpose.

It is noted that at the request of an individual Councillor, the scope prepared for this Strategy has been provided to Councillors.

Question 2

With respect to the consultation for the Tree Management Strategy why is the proposed Strategy only focusing on trees on public (Council) land when almost 50% of trees in urban areas in the Yass Valley are on private land and form a vital part of any climate mitigation strategy and ambience of the streetscapes?

Response

The approved budget set by Council for the creation of a Strategy is \$80,000. The focus of this Strategy has therefore needed to be refined to areas that Council can affect immediate effect change upon (i.e. public trees).

Question 3

How have stakeholders (the public) been informed about the scope of the Tree Management Strategy?

Response

As the RFQ has only recently been awarded, the process remains in early stages. The point of the initial consultation round is to allow the community a voice in refining the scope. Council has moved away from a traditional consultation model into one in which empowers the community to take ownership and have increased input into the Councils strategies that impact them.

Question 4

When will the Council be provided with the updated Play Space Strategy?

Response

The Parks and Play Strategy was placed on public exhibition between 28 November 2025 and 31 January 2026. Council staff are currently reviewing the submissions from the community with a view to reflect the feedback in the final strategy. This version will be presented to Council for final adoption in the coming months.

Question 5

How long on average does it take Council to respond to non-urgent requests such as barking dogs or fixing a lock on the door of the public toilets in Riverbank Park? Does Council have KPI's for this?

Response

Council currently has no Rangers and therefore we have had to prioritise areas that pose immediate public concern such as off-leash dogs and dog attacks.

Council's Customer Service Charter, available on the YVC website, specifies that 'other dog complaints' such as barking dogs can expect a 5 working day response timeframe.

The fixing of a door in Riverside Park is something that would be attended to as soon as possible for inspection and for a permanent fix, resources permitting.

RESOLVED that the Questions with Notice be tabled and noted.

(Flanery/McGrath) 32

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

8.2 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE - CR ADRIAN CAMERON

Question

What was the process for deciding that some council properties are to be let on a commercial basis; the Goodradigbee Centre, the library and one of the spaces in the memorial hall, whilst others are used by community groups on what appears to be a grace and favour arrangement Whilst other community groups have been excluded and/or evicted from council property?

Response

Both the Goodradigbee Building and the small space at the front of Memorial Hall have both been leased on a commercial basis previously. Both of these spaces are currently vacant and have been advertised for commercial leases through a local real estate agency.

When the library moves into the new building within the Crago Mill Precinct, the existing library area will be commercially leased to provide an income to Council. All community groups are able to apply to lease any of the commercial spaces at the assessed market value for each space.

As per Council resolution at the February 2023 Council meeting, that the Yass District Historical Society were offered first option of the location of the current Library space at market value. The Society have thanked Council for their proposal and have formally advised Council that they will not be accepting this offer.

Council does not have any existing commercially lettable spaces on grace or favour arrangements. The Men's Shed and Yass Landcare have ongoing access to Council owned facilities, that are not considered commercially lettable spaces. These arrangements have been in place for some time.

At this point in time, Council is not in a financial position to be offering commercially lettable spaces for free or below market value to community groups.

RESOLVED that the Questions with Notice be tabled and noted.

(Jones/Cameron) 33

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell
AGAINST: Nil

9. Minutes and Recommendations of Council Committees

9.2 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2026

REPORT

The minutes of the Local Transport Forum meeting held on 3 February 2026 are included in **Attachment A**.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Local Transport Forum provides advice and recommendations to Council only, with no decision-making delegations. Therefore, actions identified in the attached minutes will require the formal approval by Council before any commitment or adjustment to the Operational Plan/Budget is made.

Accordingly, the minutes are presented for information.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Local Transport Forum meeting held on 3 February 2026 be noted and adopt the following recommendations:

1.0 ROAD CLOSURES ANZAC DAY 2026 – YASS

That:

- 1.1 Council support the Yass 2026 Anzac Day Road closures.**
- 1.2 Council arrange all traffic management, public notification of the road closures and advise the NSW Ambulance Services and NSW Fire and Rescue.**

2.0 ROAD CLOSURES ANZAC DAY 2026 – BINALONG

That:

- 2.1 Council support the Binalong 2026 Anzac Day Road closures.**
- 2.2 Council arrange all traffic management, public notification of the road closures and advise the NSW Ambulance Services and NSW Fire and Rescue.**

3.0 ROAD CLOSURES ANZAC DAY 2026 – SUTTON

That:

- 3.1 Council support the Sutton 2026 Anzac Day Road closures.**
- 3.2 Council arrange public notification of the road closures and advise the NSW Ambulance Services and NSW Fire and Rescue.**

4.0 ROAD CLOSURES ANZAC DAY 2026 – GUNDAROO

That:

- 4.1 Council support the Gundaroo 2026 Anzac Day Road closures.**
- 4.2 Council arrange public notification of the road closures and write advice the NSW Ambulance Services and NSW Fire and Rescue.**

5.0 LOAD LIMIT BACK CREEK ROAD GUNDAROO

That:

- 5.1 Council support in principle the introduction of a 15T load limit on Back Creek Road.**

- 5.2 *Council places this proposal on public exhibition to obtain community feedback and the proposal be specifically referred to the Gundaroo Progress Association.*
- 5.3 *A further report be provided to the May 2026 Local Transport Forum if any objections are received.*

6.0 SAFETY CONCERNS INTERSECTION MOUNT AND GLEBE STREETS YASS

That:

- 6.1 *Council change the existing give-way signs at the intersection of Mount and Glebe Streets Yass to stop signs.*
- 6.2 *Council review opportunities to improve parking at this intersection.*

7.0 DETAILED DESIGN YASS RAIL TRAIL

That:

- 7.1 *Council support the draft detailed design of the Yass Rail Trail, which will deliver a significant asset that will benefit the community and local economy.*
- 7.2 *Council continues with community consultation to develop a final detailed design.*

8.0 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS YASS VALLEY WAY – WARGEILA TO BELLEVALE ROADS YASS

That:

- 8.1 *Council support the proposed safety improvements for Yass Valley Way between Wargeila and Bellevale Roads, Yass.*
- 8.2 *Council investigate grant opportunities to deliver the proposed safety improvements.*

9.0 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS SHINGLE HILL WAY

That:

- 9.1 *Council implement the following safety improvement works at the intersection of Shingle Hill Way and Sutton Road:*
 - 9.1.1 *replace the give way signs with a 'B' size stop signs.*
 - 9.1.2 *install rumble strips in Shingle Hill Way.*
 - 9.1.3 *investigate improved street lighting.*
- 9.2 *Council implement the following safety improvement works at the intersection of Shingle Hill Way and Federal Highway:*
 - 9.2.1 *Replace the existing 'B' size stop signs at this intersection with 'C' size stop signs.*
 - 9.2.2 *Install rumble strips on Shingle Hill Way prior to both Hadlow Drive and Federal Highway intersections.*
 - 9.2.3 *Install prepare to stop sign on Shingle Hill Way prior to intersection similar to what is installed on Bungendore Road.*
 - 9.2.4 *Council Investigate improved street lighting.*
- 9.3 *Council implement the following safety improvement works at the intersection of Shingle Hill Way and Hadlow Drive:*
 - 9.3.1 *Install 'C' size stop signs and associated line marking on Shingle Hill Way at the intersection.*
 - 9.3.2 *Install prepare to stop sign on Shingle Hill Way prior to the intersection.*
- 9.4 *Council request TfNSW to undertake a speed review for Shingle Hill Way.*
- 9.5 *Council continues to work with TfNSW and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council to develop other safety improvement options.*
- 9.6 *Council request TfNSW investigate options for advisory signs to warn heavy vehicles of the dangers of using Shingle Hill Way to turn right onto the Federal Highway.*
- 9.7 *Council request TfNSW investigate options to provide an online system to warn heavy vehicles of the dangers of using Shingle Hill Way to turn right onto the Federal Highway.*

10.0 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS MURRUMBATEMAN ROAD

That:

- 10.1 *Council support the proposed safety improvement works on Murrumbateman Road between Dicks Creek Road and Noyes Lane be supported.*

10.2 Council consider funding opportunities to obtain grant funding to undertake these works.

(Rothwell/Charry) 34

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

Motion

RESOLVED that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes at 7.56pm.

(Charry/Carter) 35

FOR: Councillors K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Councillor C Burgess

10. Confidential Matters

6.7 YVC.PE.57.2025 MURRUMBATEMAN ALL ABILITIES PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION

SUMMARY

To recommend a preferred Tenderer for the Murrumbateman All Abilities Playground Construction.

RESOLVED that Council accepts the Tender from Briarwood Pty Ltd T/A Ram Constructions under Contract YVC.PE.57.2025 Murrumbateman All Abilities Playground Construction subject to satisfactory reference checks.

(McGrath/Butler) 36

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

6.16 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

SUMMARY

Council at its meeting of 23 October 2025, resolved to call for Expressions of Interest for the following advisory committees: Economic and Development Advisory Committee, First Nations Advisory Committee, Access and Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and Sport and Open Space Advisory Committee.

Council advertised the expression of interest process extensively on both the YVC website and social media channels and accepted Expressions of Interest from 1 November 2025 until 23 December 2025. It is noted that given the number of applications that had been received at the closing date, staff kept the expression of interest link on the website open over the festive season in order to try and attract further applicants.

It is noted that the First Nations Advisory Committee, Access and Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and Sport and Open Space Advisory Committee did not receive enough applications to complete the membership as outlined in each of the individual Terms of Reference. This therefore means that some Advisory Committees will operate with vacancies.

The names of all applicants are outlined below however each application is considered Confidential as they contain sensitive contact information and relate to the circumstances of each individual.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Appoint the following ex-officio, industry expert and community members to the Economic and Development Advisory Committee:**
 - *Jessica Bryden – on behalf of Destination Southern NSW*
 - *Gill Elphinston – on behalf of Regional Development Australia Southern Inland*
 - *Jason Burgess – on behalf of Yass Valley Business Chamber*
 - *Jack Walker - on behalf of Yass Valley Business Chamber*
 - *Yasmin Coe*
 - *Aunty Karen Denny*
 - *Landon Hodgkinson*
 - *Kieran Reynolds*
- 2. Appoint the following community members to the First Nations Advisory Committee**
 - *Aunty Karen Denny*
 - *Marcayla Stopp*
 - *Tegan Denny*
 - *Aunty Pam Bell*
- 3. Defer the appointment of members to the Access and Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and Sport and Open Space Advisory Committee until Council identifies key stakeholders and writes to them.**
- 4. Recirculate the offer to nominate for the Access and Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and the Sport and Open Space Advisory Committee once key stakeholders have been identified.**

(Butler/Flanery) 37

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry, F Flanery, J Jones, A McGrath and D Rothwell

AGAINST: Nil

The meeting closed at 8.21pm.