



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council

Thursday 28 May 2026

4:00 PM

Council Chambers
Comur Street, YASS

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DRAFT

Council Meeting - The Mayor declared the meeting open at 4.04pm.

Present

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

Also present were the Acting Chief Executive Officer – Peta Gardiner, Director of Planning & Environment – Andrew Neil, Director of Infrastructure & Assets – Nathan Cooke, Acting Director of Corporate & Community – Caitlin Flint, Learning & Development Officer – Katie Yeo and Executive Support Officer – Chloe Johnson.

Acknowledgement of Country

Yass Valley Council recognises the Ngunnawal people, the Traditional Custodians of the land, water, and sky. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and future emerging leaders.

We extend our respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in the Yass Valley Local Government Area.

Prayer

All Stand:

Mayor: Let us be still and remember the presence of God. As we commence our meeting let us together pray for guidance and help.

Join me in the prayer or take this moment to reflect:

Almighty God, we ask your blessing upon this Council.

Direct and prosper our deliberations to the true welfare of Australia and the people of Yass Valley Amen.

Adjournment

RESOLVED that the Council Meeting be adjourned due to technical difficulties being experienced with the livestream function

(Flanery/Cameron) 109

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

AGAINST: Nil

1. Councillor Request for Attendance via Audio-Visual

Nil

2. Apologies

Apology

RESOLVED that apologies be received from Councillor Rothwell and Leave of Absence be granted due to unforeseen caring responsibilities.

(Charry/Carter) 110

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

AGAINST: Nil

3. Declaration of Interest/Disclosures

Mayor Jasmin Jones, declared a Non-Pecuniary - Less than Significant Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 6.6 Request to Name Asset – Yass Rotary Lookout – 17 Irvine Drive, Yass. Mayor Jones remained in the Chamber for debate on this item.

Reason: Traditionally Yass Valley Mayors are offered honorary membership of Rotary. Mayor Jones has attended two Rotary meetings to date when Council-related topics have arisen.

Mayor Jasmin Jones, declared a Non-Pecuniary - Significant Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 6.16 and 10.2 Request to Waive Charge. Mayor Jones vacated the Chamber whilst debate on this item took place.

Reason: A director of the company that owns the property was also a director on a company with Mayor Jones for a period of 12 months.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 April 2026 covered by Resolution numbers 68 – 94 inclusive copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed..

(Butler/Burgess) 111

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

AGAINST: Nil

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 11 May 2026 covered by Resolution numbers 95 – 108 inclusive, copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed with the amendments to remove Councillor Flanery and Councillor Carter from voting given their Leave of Absence from the Meeting.

(Butler/Burgess) 112

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

AGAINST: Nil

Suspension of Standing Orders

RESOLVED that Standing Orders be suspended in order to bring forward Item 6.17 Code of Meeting Practice Motion of Disallowance in the Legislative Council.

(Flanery/McGrath) 113

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.17 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE MOTION OF DISALLOWANCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SUMMARY

Under section 41(4) of the *Interpretation Act 1987*, if a regulation ceases to have effect because of its disallowance, and the regulation amended a regulation that was in force immediately before the amending regulation took effect, the disallowance of the amending regulation has the effect of restoring or reviving the previous regulation as of the day of its disallowance.

On 26 May 2026, a disallowance motion was passed in relation to the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice in the Legislative Council.

The disallowance of the Amendment Regulation therefore means that the 2025 Model Meeting Code is no longer prescribed for the purposes of section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and the previous 2021 version of the Model Meeting Code now becomes the prescribed version.

Under Section 360 of the Local Government Act 1993, Councils' adopted Codes of Meeting Practice must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the prescribed Model Meeting Code. This means that provisions of the current Code of Meeting Practice based on the now disallowed 2025 Model Meeting Code that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the previous 2021 Model Meeting Code are no longer permissible.

The impact of the disallowance also means that mandatory provisions of the of the 2025 Model Meeting Code that were not mandated in the previous 2021 Model Meeting Code are no longer mandatory. Full advice from the OLG on this can be read at **Attachment 1**.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council rescind Resolution 431/25, Adoption of Code of Meeting Practice.**
- 2. Council place the former YVC version of the Code of Meeting Practice, aligning with the 2021 Model Code of Meeting Practice albeit with minor changes consistent with legislation, on public exhibition for no less than 42 days inviting submissions be received. Any proposed changes are identified within Attachment B.**
- 3. If no material submissions are received requiring further changes to the Code of Meeting Practice, the Policy be adopted.**
- 4. Note the Minister for Local Government has foreshadowed NSW Council's will likely be prescribed an updated Code of Meeting Practice in the coming months.**

(Charry/McGrath) 114

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

AGAINST: Nil

5. Mayoral Minute

5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - FUTURE FUND & REMOVAL OF COMMERCIAL ENTITIES BRANDS & LOGOS FROM YASS VALLEY COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY YASS VALLEY COUNCIL

SUMMARY

The impact of Renewable Energy State Significant Development Applications (SSDA) on the Yass Valley community cannot be underestimated. This Motion seeks to re-frame the narrative around financial contributions Council must receive from large scale projects as compulsory whilst also balancing not being seen to promote or endorse such developments given the resounding opposition from the community.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. For any new Voluntary Planning Agreements relating to any Renewable Energy State Significant Development Applications (SSDA), Yass Valley Council does not permit co-branding with the developer or operator of the Renewable Energy SSDA where no sponsorship arrangement has been agreed upon.**
- 2. Any future benefit scheme that is paid into be re-branded and advertised as “Yass Valley Community Grants” or similar community focussed wording.**
- 3. Notes that for all prior executed and current Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPA), there is little ability for Council to alter such as they constitute a legal agreement between parties. Existing VPA’s include: Wallaroo Solar Farm, Rye Park Wind Farm, Coppabella Wind Farm and Bango Wind Farm.**
- 4. Yass Valley Council notes that as per the resource ‘Renew Map’ of State and Regionally Significant Projects, further SSDA projects are in pipeline within our region. Council acknowledges the administrative burden verses return on Council time and resources if further projects are approved by the State and further committee structures are required to administer small pools of payments and manage ongoing depreciation, maintenance and renewal requirements of any assets.**
- 5. The CEO is to submit a report to Council, no later than the July Council meeting, on options for the establishment of a Yass Valley Strategic Future Fund framework associated with Voluntary Planning Agreement community enhancement monies received from the Wallaroo Solar Farm, Bango Wind Farm, Rye Park Wind Farm and Coppabella Wind Farm (when operative). The report is to address but not be limited to:**
 - a. compliance with the terms of each Voluntary Planning Agreement and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW);**
 - b. investment and internally restricted reserve options in accordance with s 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and Council’s Investment Policy (FM-CP-19);**
 - c. governance arrangements, including control, oversight, reporting and decision-making processes;**
 - d. options for a more strategic and simplified governance approach that reduces duplication of committee structures whilst maintaining appropriate collaboration with the respective renewable energy proponents;**
 - e. financial modelling of accumulation scenarios over three, five and ten year periods;**

- f. potential strategic purposes of the Future Fund framework, including significant infrastructure, public amenity and long-term financial resilience initiatives for the Yass Valley community; and*
- g. consideration of appropriate geographic equity and local community benefit principles.*

(Jones) 115

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

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron and D Carter

5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - SUPPORT FOR CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SUMMARY

The Country Mayors Association of NSW (CMA) invites all its member Councils to participate in a vital campaign advocating for the restoration of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to local governments.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes the Country Mayors Association of NSW "Invest in Us" campaign advocating for increased Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to local governments. The campaign seeks to restore at least 1% of total Commonwealth taxation revenue for local councils across Australia**
- 2. Recognises the fundamental role local government plays in delivering essential services and infrastructure that underpin community wellbeing, economic vitality, and national resilience.**
- 3. Supports the campaign's core message: 'Invest in us so we can invest in them.'**
- 4. Commits to participating in the campaign by:**
 - a. Sharing campaign materials through Council communication channels**
 - b. Engaging with local media and community stakeholders to raise awareness**
 - c. Lobbying Federal representatives to support the funding increase.**
- 5. Requests the Mayor to write to the relevant Prime Minister, Treasurer, Federal Minister for Local Government, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, our local Member of Parliament expressing Council's support for the campaign and urging their commitment to the proposed funding increase.**

(Jones) 116

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

AGAINST: Nil

5.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - HUME HIGHWAY & YASS VALLEY WAY/BURLEY GRIFFIN/LACHLAN INTERSECTION ADVOCACY

SUMMARY

This Mayoral Minute is intended to continue the ongoing body of advocacy work in relation to the myriad of Federal, State and Regional Roads within the LGA which continue to pose an unacceptable safety risk to motorists.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council notes the fatal crash on 25 April 2026 at the Hume Highway and Yass Valley Way intersection. It further notes and opposes the lack of priority or proposed improvements for this intersection and regional road under the recently released NSW Government's South East & Tablelands Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plan (SRITP)**
- 2. Council notes the recent onsite visits by the Mayor, Local Transport Forum Chair, Clr Rothwell, Hume Police District Yass Police Inspector Cowell, and Sgt Carroll, to discuss potential safety improvements for this fatal crash site and two other strategic intersections within the LGA along the Hume Highway.**
- 3. Council supports collective advocacy to the State and Federal Governments to ensure the State Government urgently prioritises safety upgrades for the Yass Valley Way intersection with the Hume Highway.**
- 4. Council supports prioritising Yass Valley Way for the Local Transport Forum's further input on safety measures. These measures could include rumble strips, improved signage, movement-activated flashing lights to signal approach to the four-lane highway intersection, and discussions with TfNSW regarding a speed reduction approaching the intersection and the suitability of orange fog street lighting.**
- 5. Yass Valley Council also strongly advocates that the NSW State Government urgently prioritise upgrades to the Burley Griffin Way and Lachlan Valley Way intersections in the Transport Budget, acknowledging their current ranking of 26 out of 60 strategic priorities in the SRITP.**

(McGrath/Jones) 117

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

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 6.4 Review of Workplace Surveillance Policy**
- Item 6.10 Financial Sustainability Roadmap – Quarterly Update**
- Item 6.15 Hume Park Resort**
- Item 9.1 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association Meeting held on 27 March 2026**

(Cameron/McGrath) 118

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.4 REVIEW OF WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE POLICY

SUMMARY

Council presently conducts workplace surveillance in accordance with an outdated Surveillance of Employees Policy 2015 (attached). A review of this Policy has subsequently taken place, triggered by the move into new Crago Precinct coupled with evolving technology in the preceding decade, and a draft Workplace Surveillance Policy is being placed before Council seeking endorsement. Importantly, this Policy seeks to protect staff and members of the public who access and utilise Council facilities. The primary purpose of this Policy is to ensure the safety of both workers and members of the public, not to act as a disciplinary tool and has been carefully constructed in accordance with many critical pieces of legislation.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council endorse the draft/revise Workplace Surveillance Policy for exhibition and consultation for a minimum of 28 days.**
- 2. If no material submissions are received, the Policy be adopted.**

(Cameron/McGrath) 119

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.10 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP - QUARTERLY UPDATE

SUMMARY

A major focus outlined in the Council's Delivery Program is to progress work required to improve Council's Financial Sustainability. In August 2025 Council endorsed the Financial Sustainability Roadmap (FSR) as a key document underpinning its planned progression towards Financial Sustainability. This report provides an update on the implementation of the Action Plan included in the FSR.

RESOLVED that Council receive and note this report outlining the implementation of the Action Plan contained in the Financial Sustainability Roadmap.

(Cameron/McGrath) 120

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.15 HUME PARK RESORT

SUMMARY

To alert Council to the imminent expiry of its lease over land at Good Hope currently operated as Hume Park Resort, outline a range of contingent risks arising from historical and continuing non-compliance and to recommend that Council proceed in a way that attempts to see Hume Park continue in operation in a manner that removes or largely mitigates any contingent risk to Council.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council places the consideration of the Hume Park Resort in Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A(2)(di) of the Local Government Act 1993, given it contains material relating to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, be on balance contrary to the public interest.**

(Cameron/McGrath) 121

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

AGAINST: Nil

9.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2026

REPORT

The Minutes of the Country Mayors Association Meeting held on 27 March 2026 are included in **Attachment A**.

Accordingly the minutes are presented for information.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Country Mayors Association Meeting held on 27 March 2026 be noted for information

(Cameron/McGrath) 122

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

AGAINST: Nil

6. Reports to Council

6.1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT DA210093 - RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AND MURRUMBATEMAN RECREATION GROUND PATH - 46 HILLVIEW DRIVE, MURRUMBATEMAN

SUMMARY

To present a report relating to the requirement to construct a shared path at the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground as part of a condition of development consent, DA210093, for the 37 lot subdivision of 46 Hillview Drive, Murrumbateman. It is recommended that the path is constructed between the existing horse arenas as this is the most direct route and there are no other feasible alternatives.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Consideration of Agenda Item 6.1 – Development Consent DA210093 – Residential Subdivision and Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Path – 46 Hillview Drive, Murrumbateman be deferred to the June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.**
- 2. The CEO is to provide a supplementary report addressing:**
 - a. the safety and operational impacts associated with pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian interaction within the proposed pathway area, including consideration of children and event patrons;**
 - b. risk analysis relating to the proposed pathway alignment, including foreseeable interaction risks between horses, pedestrians and cyclists;**
 - c. workable mitigation measures associated with the proposed pathway alignment, including physical separation measures, operational controls and user safety considerations; and**
 - d. feedback from key stakeholders associated with the Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds.**

(Charry/Butler) 123

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

AGAINST: Councillor F Flanery

6.2 DA250555 - CONSTRUCTION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY - 24 COOKS HILL ROAD, YASS

SUMMARY

To present the assessment of Development Application No DA250555 for the construction of a telecommunications facility at 24 Cooks Hill Road, Yass. The application is presented to Council for determination as the application is 'council related development'. The application did not attract any objections. Approval is recommended.

RESOLVED that conditional development consent be issued for Development Application No DA250555 for the construction of a telecommunications facility at 24 Cooks Hill Road, Yass.

(McGrath/Charry) 124

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

AGAINST: Councillors A Cameron and F Flanery

6.3 SUBMISSION TO THE DRAFT STATEWIDE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN

SUMMARY

As part of the broad suite of planning reforms introduced by the NSW State Government in the *Planning System Reforms Act 2025*, an undertaking to implement a statewide Community Participation Plan was made. This document is now on public exhibition and includes a number of proposals that would significantly change the way in which Yass Valley Council undertakes consultation with the community across policy, strategic and statutory planning.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes the draft NSW State Government Community Participation Plan, currently on exhibition**
- 2. Officers make a submission to the Draft Community Participation Plan noting the concerns with the broad range of development types that will no longer require notification**

(Butler/Cameron) 125

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.5 REVIEW OF NAMING ASSETS POLICY

SUMMARY

Council has an existing Naming of Public Assets Policy (2016) which has been reviewed as a matter of course. The new draft Policy is titled 'Naming Assets Policy' and expands on the criteria and notification requirements as a result of the instigation of a naming process relating to a Council asset (excluding roads/streets). This report seeks endorsement from Council to conduct public exhibition on the revised Policy as attached as well as to formally commence work on the naming of the new buildings within the Crago Mill Precinct.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council endorse the draft/revised Naming of Assets Policy for exhibition and consultation for a minimum of 28 days.**
- 2. If no material submissions are received, the Policy be adopted.**
- 3. Community consultation be commenced to invite submissions on proposed names for both the Administration and Library buildings of the Crago Mill Precinct for 28 days, and promote such consultation in upcoming Village Outreach Meetings, through Committees of Council, via social media platforms, within a feedback box at the Customer Service counter and on the Council website.**
- 4. All submissions and feedback received be shortlisted in accordance with the Naming Assets Policy by staff and a report be tabled at a future Council Meeting for consideration.**
- 5. Following endorsement of the shortlisted names, Council will gauge public sentiment through engagement and report back to Council for a final decision.**

(Butler/Charry) 126

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.6 REQUEST TO NAME ASSET - YASS ROTARY LOOKOUT - 17 IRVINE DRIVE, YASS

SUMMARY

Council has received a request from The Rotary Club of Yass Inc on 8 May 2026 requesting consideration be given to naming the lookout at 17 Irvine Drive, Yass (Lot 35 DP 1045621) the 'Yass Rotary Lookout' in recognition of the contribution Yass Rotary has made to the Yass community for over 70 years.

Council has an existing Naming of Public Assets Policy which supports such a name to be placed on public exhibition for 28 days inviting submissions.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. Council endorse and place the proposed name 'Yass Rotary Lookout' on public exhibition for 28 days inviting submissions in order to name the currently un-named Yass Lookout at 17 Irvine Drive, Yass.**
- 2. If no material submissions are received, the naming of the lookout proceed to be adopted and all appropriate notification action takes place.**
- 3. Any costs related to Signage (per Clause 6 Naming Public Assets Policy) be borne by Council once construction works related to the Lookout are finalised.**

(Charry/McGrath) 127

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.7 YASS WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE - REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

SUMMARY

To present the Review of Environmental Factors for the upgrade of the Yass Water Treatment Plant.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes that the Yass Water Treatment Plant upgrade is permitted without consent in accordance with s2.159 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.**
- 2. Endorse the Yass Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Review of Environmental Factors for publishing on Council's website in accordance with s171(4) and (5) Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.**

(Carter/Flanery) 128

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.8 UPDATE ON PROPOSED 15T LOAD LIMIT ON BACK CREEK ROAD

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the outcome of community consultation for a proposed 15T load limit on Back Creek Road Gundaroo.

RESOLVED that Council:

1. **Implement a 15 Tonne load limit on Back Creek Road**
2. **Invite requests for a standing permit during emergency conditions**

(Burgess/Butler) 129

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

AGAINST: Councillor A Cameron

6.9 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL - 2026-2027 DETERMINATION ON FEES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUMMARY

The NSW Local Government Tribunal is required under sections 239 and 241 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* to make annual determinations on maximum and minimum fees payable to councillors and mayors. The Tribunal has delivered its determination dated 23 April 2026 on fees payable in 2026-27. Council needs to resolve its position on payment of fees, in accordance with the parameters set under legislation and the Tribunal determination

RESOLVED that Council confirms the setting of Mayoral and Councillor annual fees for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 at the maximum permissible levels, being \$19,590 and \$42,030 respectively.

(Cameron/Butler) 130

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

AGAINST: Councillors D Carter, A Charry and F Flanery

At 6.28pm Councillor Carter left the Chamber.

At 6.30pm Councillor Carter returned to the Chamber.

6.11 2025/26 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW STATEMENT

SUMMARY

This report represents the 2025-26 Third Quarter Budget Review Statement (QBR3) for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026. The review demonstrates Council's projected year end consolidated Net Operating Result before Capital items remains negative and is predicted to be (\$3.12M) compared to the revised consolidated budgeted deficit of (\$1.223M) following the Second Quarter Budget Review (QBR2). Actual results as at 31 March 2026 show a surplus of \$3.885M due to rate and annual charges recognised in July with expenses evenly spread across the year.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Notes the 2025-26 Third Quarter Budget Review.**
- 2. Adopts the adjustments detailed in the 2025-26 Third 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 March 2026 as being satisfactory, having regard to revised projected estimates of income and expenditure from this review.**
- 4. Notes that the 2025-26 Third Quarter Budget Review Statement will be provided to the Office of Local Government.**

(Cameron/McGrath) 131

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.12 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 30 April 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.

RESOLVED that the Investment & Borrowings Reports, covering the period 1 to 30 April 2026 be noted.

(Charry/Carter) 132

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.13 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

SUMMARY

This monthly financial report provides information about Council's financial position at the end of April 2026 with the full year and year-to-date budgets reflecting the budgets adopted as part of the Second Quarter Budget Review (QBR2). 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.

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

(Carter/Cameron) 133

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

AGAINST: Nil

Motion

RESOLVED that Council extend the meeting duration until 7.30pm.

(McGrath/Charry) 134

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

AGAINST: Nil

6.14 MONTHLY KEY INCOMING AND OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

SUMMARY

Council will receive regular reporting on incoming and outgoing correspondence relating to Council Resolutions. It is equally important for the community to see this advocacy work and for these communications to be made available publicly.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. The incoming and outgoing correspondence be noted.**
- 2. Council reaffirms its formal position regarding the future of Parkwood remaining within New South Wales and the importance of protecting the long-term interests of Yass Valley residents.**
- 3. The Mayor write to NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP and NSW Minister for Water the Hon Rose Jackson MLC inviting them to visit the Yass Valley for direct engagement with Councillors and Executive Staff regarding:**
 - a. regional water security;**
 - b. future cross-border infrastructure planning; and**
 - c. the long-term implications arising from the ACT Government's correspondence.**
- 4. Council acknowledges the importance of maintaining constructive intergovernmental relationships whilst ensuring the concerns and interests of regional communities are properly represented within future negotiations impacting the Yass Valley.**

(Charry/Carter) 135

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

AGAINST: Councillor A Cameron

At 7.12pm Councillor Flanery left the Chamber.

At 7.12pm Mayor Jones left the Chamber and vacated the Chair. Deputy Mayor Butler resumed the Chair.

6.16 REQUEST TO WAIVE CHARGE

SUMMARY

This report relates to an error in respect to Rates and Annual Charges identified for 234 Comur Street, Yass (Assessment ID 31567) from the 2024-25 financial year in which the landowner has requested be waived.

RESOLVED that Council places the consideration of the Request to Waive Charge in Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993, given it contains material relating to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance contrary to the public interest.

(Cameron/McGrath) 136

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry and A McGrath

AGAINST: Nil

At 7.13pm Mayor Jones returned to the Chamber and resumed the Chair.

7. Notice of Motion

Nil

8. Questions with Notice

8.1 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR CECIL BURGESS

Council have historically utilised borrow pits throughout the LGA to win suitable select material to sheet the network of unsealed rural roads. Many of these borrow pits are within road reserves and others are on private property under agreement with landowners.

Question 1:

Can Council provide an inventory of all Borrow pits that have historically been used by council for road sheeting material?

Response:

In the last decade Council has accessed unsealed road gravels from privately owned borrow pits, including Lawsons Pit (Gundaroo Road) and Graces Flat Pit (Graces Flat Road) only. Council has not utilised borrow pits within road reserves during this same period.

Question 2:

Can Council confirm the current approval status of each borrow pit and if council are able to continue to use the borrow pits for this purpose, including "grandfathered implied approvals".

Response:

Both Lawsons Pit and Graces Flat Road Pits have now ceased to be used. Both property owners have advised Council that they do not want Council to extract any more material from their privately owned pits. To recommence use of road reserves as borrow pits would require a full REF assessment to be undertaken.

Question 3:

Can Council advise what the process would be and the time expectation to obtain approval to reopen historical Borrow Pits should they not have a current approval.

Response:

In New South Wales, borrow pits are primarily governed by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Depending on the scale and location of the project, borrow pits may also require oversight under the *Mining Act 1992*, *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013*, and a number of varying other environmental acts and policies, depending on individual site constraints.

The cost of winning and crushing the material, transporting, testing, obtaining environmental approvals and the uncertainty of the gravel quality has made accessing borrow pits on roadsides or from private properties not practical. Each site proposed to have materials extracted will need a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) as required under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, prior to the sites being used for this purpose. This requires the consideration of ecological impacts, stormwater and sediment control, heritage, including indigenous archaeology as well as other site constraints.

Roadsides and linear reserves are incredibly complex environments. Even though they are highly modified, they frequently contain:

- Vital remnant native vegetation and seed banks.
- Ecological corridors that allow local wildlife to move between habitats.
- Threatened flora and fauna, wetlands, or culturally sensitive heritage areas.

The combination of these factors has made the use of roadside and private borrow pits financially and environmentally unviable.

RESOLVED that :

- 1. The questions and responses be noted**
- 2. Council conduct a further investigation into re-opening borrow pits.**

(Burgess/Cameron) 137

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

Motion

RESOLVED that Council extend the meeting duration until 7.45pm.

(Carter/Charry) 138

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

8.2 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE - CR ADRIAN CAMERON

Question 1

Given renewed focus by our YVC Staff on achieving Net Zero Emissions By 2050, would you please advise how many electric vehicles are currently in our council fleet; what is the plan and timeline for moving to an all-electric fleet; And what plans are being made towards replacing council equipment like mowers with electric equipment thereby not only reducing running costs, but improving occupational health and safety for our staff with zero emissions and noise?

Response

Council has just embarked on the Net Zero journey with some good baseline data obtained. There is more work to do in this space, which we are confident will enable Council to make informed choices and decisions to reduce our carbon footprint in the not-so-distant future.

Currently there are no electric plant or vehicle within our fleet. That said, with the adoption of the new Motor Vehicle Leaseback Policy (internal) and alignment with our Net Zero goals, there will be options and opportunities to introduce electric fleet where practical and financially viable.

Question 2

Would you please update Councillors and our community on the proposed Tree Management Strategy, and the progress and timeline for recruitment of a fully qualified arborist to Yass Valley Council team?

Response

Manager Community Spaces has taken on this project after commencement with Council in March 2026. A draft report has been prepared by the consultant and reviewed by Council Officers. Amendments are currently being made by the consultant in order to finalise the draft report.

The recruitment process for a Tree Management Officer is well underway. Interviews for the role were held last week and a decision on appointment is to be made this week.

RESOLVED that the questions and responses be noted.

(Cameron/Burgess) 139

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

9. Minutes and Recommendations of Council Committees

Nil

10. Confidential Matters

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 10A of the Local Government Act, 1993 the following items on the agenda be classified as CONFIDENTIAL and considered in the Closed Meeting of Council in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act for the reasons as specified:

10.1 Hume Park Resort

Item 10.1 is confidential in accordance with section s10(A)(2)(di) of the Local Government Act because it contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance contrary to the public interest and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

10.2 Request to Waive Charge

Item 10.2 is confidential in accordance with section s10(A)(2)(a) of the Local Government Act because it contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance contrary to the public interest and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

(Carter/Cameron) 140

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

Closed Meeting of Council commenced at 7.21pm.

10.1 HUME PARK RESORT

SUMMARY

To draw Council's attention to the imminent expiry of its lease over land at Good Hope currently operated as Hume Park Resort, outline a range of contingent risks arising from historical and continuing noncompliance and to recommend that Council proceed in a way that attempts to see Hume Park continue in operation in a manner that removes or largely mitigates any contingent risk to Council.

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Advise Water NSW that Council:

- (a) Is disinclined to seek a new lease over land currently leased from the former Water Resources Commission of NSW, upon the expiry of that lease, and***
- (b) Is supportive of, and is willing to facilitate, the current lessee entering into a lease over the subject land in lieu of Council, and***

- (c) *Wishes to exercise the option available to it for a monthly tenancy of the land for up to six months to enable the necessary negotiations and documentation to be completed.*
- 2. Offer the current lessee a renewal of his lease over Lot 205 DP 914584 for a term expiring on 30 September 2039 in accordance with the terms of the current lease over that land.*
 - 3. Approve in principle the sale of Lot 205 DP 914584 to the current lessee subject to satisfactory conclusion of a lease with Water NSW and a further report to Council providing all relevant information including an independent valuation of the land.*
 - 4. Issue Improvement Orders to the lessee for the rectification of numerous compliance issues at Hume Park resort within a period of not more than seven (7) years, should he continue in occupation.*

(Carter/Charry) 141

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

The Mayor vacated the Chamber at 7.41pm and Deputy Mayor Butler resumed the Chair.

10.2 REQUEST TO WAIVE CHARGE

SUMMARY

This report relates to an error in respect to Rates and Annual charges identified for 234 Comur Street, Yass (Assessment ID 31567) from the 2024-25 financial year in which the landowner has requested be waived.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Write to the landowner and apologise for the errors contained within prior years Rates and Annual Charges Notices.*
- 2. Advise the landowner that a further Supplementary Rates Notice will be provided for the undercharging of Rates and Annual Charges in 2024-2025.*
- 3. Provide approval for Council to issue Supplementary Rates and Annual charges Notices to any additional properties identified as not having been correctly charged any legislative fees or charges since 2023/2024 following an internal audit.*

(McGrath/Charry) 142

FOR: Councillors C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, D Carter, A Charry and A McGrath

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

The Mayor returned to the Chamber and resumed the Chair at 7.44pm

RESOLVED that the meeting move into Open Council at 7.44pm

(Carter/Cameron) 143

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

AGAINST: Nil

ABSENT: Councillor F Flanery

The meeting closed at 7.48pm.

DRAFT