PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

PLACE: COUNCIL CHAMBERS

DATE: THURSDAY 19TH JUNE 2025

TIME: 9.30AM

MEETING ATTENDEES	
COUNCILLORS PRESENT	Cr Alf Lacey – Mayor Cr Mersane Oui – Deputy Mayor Cr Telstan Sibley Cr Ebanese Oui Cr Germaine Bulsey
OFFICERS PRESENT	Stephen Martin – Acting Chief Executive Officer Eva Haines, Deputy CEO - Manager Finance, Governance, and Administration - minute taker Rani Sam-Johnson - Executive Assistant
OBSERVERS PRESENT	Jessie-Mae Laczik – Governance Officer Martine Care – Preston Law (TEAMS)

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Cr Lacey declared the meeting open at 10.34am.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Manbarra People, upon whose land we hold our meeting and the Bwgcolman people of Palm Island.

3. APOLOGIES

Nil.

4. CONDOLENCES

- Anthony Johnson and their extended families
- Annie Conway and their extended families
- Selena Haines/Geia and their extended families
- Allison Douglas and their extended families

5. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The chairperson invited Councillors present to disclose prescribed conflicts of interest **("PCOI")** or declarable conflicts of interest **("DCOI")** in respect of any items in the agenda, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009.*

Councillor	PCOI/DCOI	Meeting Items	**Particulars** *[Action taken by Councillor/Council pursuant to Chapter 58 of* Local Government Act 2009]
Cr Lacey			
Cr M Oui			
Cr Sibley		Item 10.4 Item 13.2	Family Member Family Member
Cr E Oui		Item 13.2	Family Member
Cr Bulsey		Item 10.7	Family Member

6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Item 6.1 28th May 2025

Resolution 2025.442

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 28th May 2025 be adopted.

Moved: Cr G Bulsey
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action item: CEO to action Facebook post regarding what to flush down toilets for community information – page 4.

Action item: Council request Preston Law to investigate the eligibility for Salary Sacrifice for Council and whether elected members qualify for it and present findings at next Council meeting.

8. PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS 2024/2025

Nil.

9. FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

Item 9.1 Annual Report 2022/2023

Resolution 2025.443

That the Council accept the Annual Report for 2022/2023.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

Item 9.2 Finalisation of Employment Contract

Resolution 2025.444

That in accordance with Resolution 2025.431 from the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28th May 2025, the Council endorses the contract finalisation payment as outlined in the confidential deed between the CEO and the Council executed by the Mayor on behalf of Council dated Thursday 29th May 2025.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr E Oui
Carried

Item 9.3 Construction of new Clear Water Storage

Resolution 2025.445

That Council approve to issue a purchase order to Australian Tank Manufacturers for the sum of $859,592.80 (GST inclusive).

Moved: Cr G Bulsey
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

Item 9.4 Repair of Jetty

Resolution 2025.446

That Council approve to issue a purchase order to Pacific Marine Group for the sum of $573,229.00 (GST exclusive).

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

Acting CEO Stephen Martin left the room at 10.51am.

Item 9.5 Appointment Process CEO Position

(1) Commence Recruitment Process

Resolution 2025.447

That Council:

1. Resolves to commence the recruitment process for the appointment of the next Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in accordance with Section 194 of the Local Government Act 2009.
2. Approves the establishment of a CEO Recruitment Committee to oversee the recruitment process and make recommendations to Council.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

(2) Establish CEO Recruitment Committee

Resolution 2025.448

That Council:

1. Authorises the Deputy CEO and Preston Law to procure quotes from an external recruitment consultancy firm to:

    a) Facilitated workshop with the full Council to develop Position Description and KPIs;
    b) Executive search and recruitment services;
    c) Probity support and candidate management.

2. Establishes a CEO Recruitment Committee comprising:

    a) The Mayor; and
    b) Deputy Mayor.

    Noting that the Committee will:

    a) Oversee engagement of a recruitment consultant firm;
    b) Participate in development of the Position Description and KPIs;
    c) Shortlist and interview candidates;
    d) Recommend a preferred candidate/s to the full Council in accordance with Section 194(1).

3. Delegate authority the Deputy CEO to appoint the recommended external recruitment consultancy firm to recruit the Chief Executive Officer.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr E Oui
Carried

Acting CEO Stephen Martin returned to the room at 11.06am.

Item 9.6 2025/2026 Financial Year Budget

Resolution 2025.449

That the Council accept the 2025/2026 Financial Year Budget.

Moved: Cr M Oui
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

Item 9.7 Cabcharge Policy

Resolution 2025.450

That the Council accept the Cabcharge Policy.

Moved: Cr E Oui
Seconded: Cr T Sibley
Carried

Action item: Council request a Housing Workshop regarding tenancies and seek input into allocations.

Action item: CEO to present drawings to Councillor's regarding the Indigenous Art and Cultural Installation.

Action item: CEO to oversee the process to get solar lights fixed around the community.

Action item: CEO to instruct Bridgeman Contractors to remove their landscaping materials away from the jetty area.

10. COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS

10.1 CEO Report

Resolution 2025.451

That the Council accept the CEO report.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

10.2 CFO Report

Resolution 2025.452

That the Council accept the CFO report.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr E Oui
Carried

10.3 Finance Governance and Administration Report

Resolution 2025.453

That the Council accept the Finance, Governance and Administration report.

Moved: Cr G Bulsey
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

Action item: Council instruct Preston Law to obtain Barristers' opinion on leases.

Action item: Council request more details be given in the report regarding who the 22 Agency Agreements leases are with.

Mayor Alf Lacey left the room at 11.51am and returned at 11.55am.

10.4 Water & Sewer Report

Resolution 2025.454

That the Council accept the Water and Sewer report.

Moved: Cr G Bulsey
Seconded: Cr E Oui
Carried

10.5 Information Communication & Technology Report

Resolution 2025.455

That the Council accept the Information and Technology report.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

Action item: Council request that conference room audio equipment failures be inspected and repaired and once completed staff be trained how to operate it.

10.6 Fleet & Mechanics Report

Resolution 2025.456

That the Council accept the Fleet and Mechanics report.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

10.7 Sports & Events Report

Resolution 2025.457

That the Council accept the Sports and Events report.

Moved: Cr E Oui
Seconded: Cr T Sibley
Carried

Action item: Council request for Staff and Community Awards to be nominated for presentation at NAIDOC dinner. Other businesses also be invited should they wish to make awards for their staff.

Action item: Instruct CEO to request Janelle Daisy to make application for extension of trading hours for the Friday 11/07/25 and Saturday 12/07/25 for NAIDOC to Liquor Licensing.

10.8 Civil & Open Spaces Report

Resolution 2025.458

That the Council accept the Civil and Open Spaces report.

Moved: Cr M Oui
Seconded: Cr T Sibley
Carried

Action item: instruct CEO to schedule mall and business areas to be cleaned with pressure washer. Table and chairs will also require upgrading in the near future.

10.9 Building & Maintenance Report

Resolution 2025.459

That the Council accept the Building and Maintenance report.

Moved: Cr M Oui
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

11. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Item 11.1 Request for Special Holidays for Palm Island 2026

Resolution 2025.460

That the Council nominate Strike '57 holiday for 10th June 2026 and Spring Fair for Friday 4th September 2026.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr G Bulsey
Carried

12. CLOSED MEETING REPORTS

Nil.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Item 13.1 Preston Law Presentation – David & Corrina Geia

Resolution 2025.461

That Council:

1. Notes that Corrina and David Geia ('Tenant') seek to renew their lease over Reserve Land located at Lot 69 on SP 282455, 69 Sibley Lane, Palm Island where the Tenant has remained in occupation of the Premises under a lease that expired on 21 July 2021 ('Lease');

2. Notes that, in accordance with section 236(1)(c)(iii) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* ('LGR'), Council may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction if the disposal is for the purpose of renewing the lease of land to the existing tenant of the land;

3. Resolves, pursuant to section 236(2) of the LGR, that the exception under section 236(1)(c)(iii) for the disposal of the interest in Lot 69 on SP 282455 for the purpose of renewing the lease to the existing tenant of the land, applies to Council for this particular disposal of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction;

4. Resolves to dispose of the interest in Lot 69 on SP 282455 for the purpose of renewing the Lease of the land to the existing Tenant; and

5. Resolves, pursuant to section 257(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, that the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to negotiate, progress, finalise, and otherwise deal with all matters that arise in connection with the Lease renewal including signing any documentation required to effect the renewal.

Moved: Cr M Oui
Seconded: Cr T Sibley
Carried

Andrew Jackson entered the room at 12.30pm

<u>Resolution 2025.462</u>

Council resolves:

1. Pursuant to section 254J(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (**LG Reg**), to close the meeting to the public at 12.30pm;

2. That the matter mentioned in section 254J(3) that is to be discussed in the closed meeting is legal advice obtained by the local government (section 254J(3)(e) LG Reg);

3. That an overview of what is to be discussed while the meeting is closed is legal proceedings involving Council.

<u>Resolution 2025.463</u>

That the Council re-open the closed session at 12.51pm.

Moved: Cr T Sibley
Seconded: Cr E Oui
Carried

Item 13.2 Andrew Jackson – presentation

Cr's Telstan Sibley and Ebanese Oui left the room due to conflict of interest at 1.05pm.

<u>Resolution 2025.464</u>

That the Council agree to purchase a retail shipping container to the value of $80,000 to be placed at Lex Wotton's residence in Bently Street. Lease to be prepared.

Moved: Cr G Bulsey
Seconded: Cr M Oui
Carried

14. NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th July 2025, at Council Chambers, 1 Main Street, Palm Island, commencing at 1.30pm.

15. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting closed at 1.07pm.

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MAYOR **DATE**