



MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

16 July 2026

**MINUTES OF BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 68 DOWLING STREET THARGOMINDAH QUEENSLAND 4492
ON THURSDAY, 16 JULY 2026 AT 9:00 AM**

PRESENT: Cr John Ferguson (Mayor), Cr Stewart Morton, Cr Russell Ferguson, Cr Maurice Parker

IN ATTENDANCE: Tiffany Dare (CEO), Kate Humphris (Admin & Finance Manager)

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor welcomed all Councillors and guests and declared the meeting open at 9.10am.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Bulloo Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting is being held, and pay respects to their elders, past and present.

3 ATTENDANCE INCLUDING APOLOGIES

Cr Glyn Dare

4 CONDOLENCES

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Pursuant to section 172 of the Local Government Act 2009, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees
 - (a) must disclose the interest to the meeting; and
 - (b) must not be present at or take part in the meeting while the issue is being considered or voted on.
- A councillor who is barred from a meeting under subsection (1) must not be in the chamber where the meeting is being conducted, including any area set apart for the public.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

7 RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

Nil

8 GENERAL BUSINESS & MATTERS FOR NOTING REPORTS**8.1 STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FINANCIAL POSITION 2025/2026****RESOLUTION 2026/126**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That pursuant to section 205 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the statement of the financial operations and financial position of the Council in respect of the previous financial year ("the Statement of Estimated Financial Position") be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

8.2 ADOPTION OF 2026/2027 BUDGET AND TEN YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST**RESOLUTION 2026/127**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That

- (a) Pursuant to section 104 of the Local Government Act 2009, 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and as prepared in accordance with section 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council resolves to adopt the Budget for the 2026/2027 financial year as contained in the documents entitled Proposed Original Budget FY2027, Financial Statements and 10 Year Forecast, and Sustainability Ratios, and set out in the pages contained therein and incorporating:
 - i. The statement of Financial Position;
 - ii. The statement of Cash Flow;
 - iii. The statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure);
 - iv. The statement of Changes in Equity;
 - v. The long-term Financial Forecast;
 - vi. The revenue policy and revenue statement;
 - vii. The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and
 - viii. The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget.
 - ix. The 2026/2027 capital works program
- (b) Pursuant to section 173(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council resolved that all money spent in the 2026/2027 financial year prior to the adoption of the budget has been included in the budget.

CARRIED

8.3 DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

RESOLUTION 2026/128

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to section 81 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the categories in to which rateable land is categorised (as in Table 1), the description of those categories and, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the method by which land is to be identified and included in its appropriate category is as follows:

- i. Column 1 - Category (section 81)
- ii. Column 2 - Description (section 81)
- iii. Column 3 – Identification (sections 81(4) and 81(5))

Table 1

Category (section 81)	Description (section 81)	Identification (section 81(4) and 81(5))
Vacant and Residential Land		
1	Vacant Land - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
2	Vacant Land - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
3	Vacant Land - Noccundra	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
4	Vacant Land – Other	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
5	Residential - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.
6	Residential - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.
Commercial and Industrial land		
7	Commercial - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
8	Commercial - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
9	Commercial - Noccundra	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
10	Commercial - Other	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
11	Industry - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
Rural Lands		

12	Small Rural	All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.
13	Rural	All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.
Intensive Industry and Other Lands		
14	Cat 6 – Jackson & Naccowlah	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Oil and / or Gas / Petroleum and / or the treatment thereof, currently identified as the Jackson and Naccowlah Oil and Gas Facility.
15	Cat 7 - Ballera	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Gas Petroleum and/or Oil identified as the South West Queensland Gas Centre
16	Cat 8 – Petroleum Leases	All other land used for the production of oil and/or gas not included in Category 14 or 15 generally known as other petroleum leases in the Shire.
17	Cat 9- Extractive Leases	All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.
18	All Other Land	All other land in the shire.
19	Accommodation – 50 to 99	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 50 or more but less than 100 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
20	Accommodation – 100 to 199	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 100 or more but less than 200 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
21	Accommodation – 200 plus	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 200 or more persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
22	Mining Claim <900m ²	All mining claims over land that is 900m ² or less.
23	Mining Claim >900m ²	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m ² .
24	All land > 10 Ha but < 100 Ha	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.
25	All land with Carbon Credit Units	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).

- a) Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land belongs.
- b) Pursuant to sections 74 and 76 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, for the purpose of making and levying rates for the 2026/27 financial year, the rateable value of land for a financial year is the value of the land for the financial year.
- c) Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 80 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the differential general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category and, pursuant to section 77 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the minimum general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category, is as follows in Table 2:

Table 2

Category		Criteria	2026-27 Rate in c/\$	2026-27 Minimum
Vacant and Residential Land				
1		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	5.5554	489
2		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	4.0436	362
3		All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	116.0606	362
4		All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	103.7031	415
5		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	8.1852	415
6		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	3.5020	350
Commercial and Industrial land				
7		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	7.8884	499
8		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	6.8369	431
9		All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	112.8882	416
10		All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	23.5606	433
11		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence), not identified in another category, that has a primary land use code designated as transport and storage or industrial.	8.6907	499
Rural Lands				
12		All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.4153	362
13		All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.3918	445
Intensive Industry and Other Lands				
14		All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Oil and / or Gas / Petroleum and / or the treatment thereof, currently identified as the Jackson and Naccowlah Oil and Gas Facility.	95.8790	721
15		All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Gas Petroleum and/or Oil identified as the South West Queensland Gas Centre.	5,402.1178	721
16		All other land used for the production of oil and/or gas not included in Category 14 or 15 generally known as other petroleum leases in the Shire.	16.7218	721
17		All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.	11.7002	362

18	All other land in the shire.	89.5064	895
19	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 50 or more but less than 100 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	13,049
20	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 100 or more but less than 200 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	26,099
21	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 200 or more persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	52,196
22	All mining claims over land that is 900m ² or less.	-	175
23	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m ² .	-	522
24	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.	8.1885	415
25	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).	1.3802	445

d) Pursuant to section 116 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the amount of the differential general rate to be levied for the 2026/2027 financial year on the categories of land identified in Column 1 of the table above, be limited to an amount no more than an amount equal to the amount of general rate levied on that land in the previous financial year increased by the percentage identified below:

- General rates increased by 3%
- Minimum general rate increased by 3%

CARRIED

8.4 CHANGE IN THE RATES AND UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/129

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to sections 169(7) and 169(8) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council notes that the percentage change in the total rates and utility charges budgeted to be levied for the 2026–27 financial year, compared with the total rates and utility charges budgeted for the 2025–26 financial year, is 2%, excluding discounts and rebates.

CARRIED

8.5 WATER UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/130

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy water utility charges, for the supply of water services by the Council, as follows:

Hungerford Water Rates

Description	Units	2026/27 Charge
Each residence – Treated or Bore and Untreated Water	Water – Connected Charge	\$ 510
Water – Consumption Charge – Treated or Bore Water Only	Per kL	\$ 0.20

Thargomindah Water Rates

Charge Type	Category	Access / Connected Charge	Consumption Charge per kl
Vacant	Water Access	\$ 380	n/a
Residential	Residential Connected	\$ 510	\$ 0.20
Commercial 1	Commercial 1 - Connected	\$ 510	\$ 0.20
Commercial 2	Commercial 2 - Connected	\$ 797	\$ 0.20
Commercial 3	Commercial 3 - Connected	\$ 2,040	\$ 0.20

Definitions for the access / connected charges:

Fixed Access Charges

1. Water Access Charge
 - a. Vacant land with access to the water network but no water meter.
2. Residential Connected Charge of \$510.
 - a. Residential or vacant land that is connected to the water network.
3. Commercial 1 Connected Charge of \$510. (Same as Residential Charge)
 - a. Other non-residential installations not mentioned in Commercial 2 or 3.
4. Commercial 2 Connected Charge of \$797 (1.5625 x Commercial 1).
 - a. Roadhouse, Truck Stop, Parks, Council Office.
5. Commercial 3 Connected Charge of \$2,040 (4 x Commercial 1).
 - a. Facilities such as School, Hospital, Pool, Hotel, Motel, Caravan Park.

Consumption Charges

1. Consumption Charge Tier 1 of \$0.20 for each kl used.

CARRIED

8.6 SEWERAGE UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/131

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That, pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy the following sewerage utility charges for the provision of sewerage services for the 2026/27 financial year:

Charge Description	Definition	2026/27 Charge
Sewerage – Access Charge	Charge applied to each parcel of land in the sewer area that has the potential to be connected to the sewer scheme, whether connected or not.	\$ 282.94
Sewerage – Connected Charge	Charge applied to a single unit dwelling, each unit of a multi-unit dwelling, each room in workers accommodation and the 1 st pedestal at all other connected allotments.	\$ 565.88
Sewerage – Additional Pedestal	After the Sewerage – Connected Charge, the Charge applied to each additional non-residential pedestal (including urinal cistern) that is connected to the sewer scheme.	\$ 282.94

CARRIED

8.7 WASTE MANAGEMENT UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/132

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy waste management utility charges, for the supply of waste management services by the Council, as follows:

Description	Charging Basis	2026/27 Charge
Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each domestic assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 29.05
Garbage – Commercial Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each commercial assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 58.11
Garbage – Domestic Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of once per week from each domestic premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Domestic Collection.	\$ 218.11
Garbage – Commercial Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of twice per week from each commercial premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Commercial Collection.	\$ 420.82

CARRIED

8.8 DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT ON RATES & UTILITY CHARGES**RESOLUTION 2026/133**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That in accordance with Section 130 Local Government Regulation 2012, Council allow three percent (3%) discount on General Rates (excluding Charges, Interest, Excess Water Charges, State Fire Services and Special Rates and Charges) provided that: -

- i. Payment is received within the discount period (i.e. within 30 days after the dates of the Rates Notice) or, where under special circumstances, an agreement has been entered into between the ratepayer and Council that rates and charges will be paid by instalments over the course of the financial year; and
- ii. the discount applies only if other rates or charges are paid.

CARRIED

8.9 INTEREST ON OVERDUE RATES AND CHARGES**RESOLUTION 2026/134**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That in accordance with Section 133 Local Government Regulation 2012, interest be charged on Rates and Utility Charges during the 2026/2027 financial year at a rate of 12.19% (calculated on daily basis) on all properties which have outstanding balances after a clear thirty (30) days from the issue of the Rates Notice.

CARRIED

8.10 REBATES AND CONCESSIONS**RESOLUTION 2026/135**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That

- a) In accordance with Section 119 & 120 Local Government Regulation 2012, and Council's Revenue Policy, Council grant to eligible pensioners, a remission of rates equivalent to 20% of the total rates and charges levied with the maximum subsidy payable of \$200.00 per annum.
- b) A Pensioner is defined by Centrelink criteria.

CARRIED

8.11 LEVY AND PAYMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/136**

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council

- a) Pursuant to section 107 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Fire Services Act 1990, Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy be levied:
 - for the half year 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026 - in August 2026; and
 - for the half year 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027 - in February 2027.
- b) Pursuant to section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy, be paid within 30 days of the date of the issue of the rate notice.

CARRIED

8.12 REVENUE STATEMENT 2026/2027**RESOLUTION 2026/137**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the document titled 'Proposed Revenue Statement 2026/2027' included in this report.
- b) Pursuant to Section 81 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 determine that for the purpose of levying differential general rates for the 2026/2027 financial year the different categories of rateable land and a description of those categories is included in Attachment 1 of the Revenue Statement.
- c) Adopt the Revenue Statement 2026/2027 in accordance with Section 169 (2) (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.
- d) Levies differential general rates, special rates and charges for those properties identified in the Overall Plan relevant to their area and utility charges for the 2026/2027 financial year pursuant to Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 at the rates included within the Revenue Statement.
- e) Determine, pursuant to Section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, those rates and charges must be paid within 30 calendar days after the notice has been issued.
- f) Determine to allow a discount for the payment of rates and charges pursuant to Section 130 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 in accordance with the Revenue Statement.
- g) Determine to allow payment of certain rates or charges by arrangements and concessions to certain classes of ratepayer pursuant to Section 129 and Section 119 of the Local

Government Regulation 2012 in accordance with the Revenue Statement.

CARRIED

8.13 DEBT POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/138

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Debt (Borrowings) Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.14 REVENUE POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/139

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council adopt the Revenue Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.15 INVESTMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/140

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Investment Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.16 FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/141

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That in accordance with Chapter 4 Part 2 Sec 97 (Cost Recovery Fees) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, and in accordance with Section 262(3)(c) (Powers in support of responsibilities) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, set the Cost Recovery Fees the Commercial Fees & Charges for 2026/2027 as per the following Schedule: –

Register of Miscellaneous Fees & Charges.

- Cost Recovery Fees
- Commercial Fees & Charges

CARRIED

8.17 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/142

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council adopt the Operational Plan for 2026/2027, as presented.

CARRIED

8.18 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/143

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Organisational Structure, as presented, to commence 01 July 2026.

CARRIED

9 LATE ITEMS

Nil

10 NEXT MEETING

Nil

11 CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 10.18am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Bulloo Shire Council held on 20 August 2026.

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CHAIRPERSON