MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

21 APRIL 2026

MINUTES OF TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THURSDAY ISLAND ON TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026

1 AGENDA CONTENTS

2 ATTENDANCE

Cr Elsie Seriat (Mayor), Cr Toshio Nakata (Deputy Mayor), Cr Gabriel Bani, Cr Thomas Loban, Mary Bani (Chief Executive Officer), Edward Kulpa (Director Planning, Projects and Environment), Roger Naidoo (Director Engineering and Infrastructure Services), Geoffrey Doyle (Director Corporate and Community Services), and Kimberley Yorkston (Executive Secretary) Dorene Riley (Finance Manager).

3 MEETING OPENED

The meeting opened with a prayer by Cr. Gabriel Bani at 9:10 am.

4 APOLOGIES

Cr Thomas Fujii

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/1
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That Council receive the apology from Cr Thomas Fujii.

CARRIED

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

On behalf of all Councillors, the Mayor acknowledged the Kaurareg people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and paid respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and the Traditional Owners of Zenadth Kes.

Mayor Seriat welcomed Geoffrey Doyle to the position as Director of Corporate and Community Services and thanked Karren MacClure in the temporary role as the Director of Corporate and Community Services.

6 CONDOLENCES

A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect in memory of a deceased person or persons of our community and/or area of the Torres Strait.

Mr Richard Moigie Sam David (Thogo)
Mr Boggo Gela (Pompy)
Ms Annie Pearson
Mr Anthoney Humphries

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

7.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – CR – TOSHIO NAKATA

Deputy Mayor Cr Toshio Nakata stated that he has a declarable a conflict of interest in item 12.11, (as defined by *Local Government Act 2009, section 150ES (3)(a)(i)*) as follows:

I, Deputy Mayor Cr Toshio Nakata, inform the meeting that I have a declarable conflict of interest due to being close association with the applicant of Torres Strait Shipping Pty Ltd.

Although I have a declarable conflict of interest, I do believe I am able to stay in the meeting and participate. Therefore, I will choose to remain in the meeting however I will respect the decision of the meeting on whether I can remain and participate in the decision.

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/2
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Cr. Thomas Loban

In Favour:

That Council resolves that Deputy Mayor Cr Toshio Nakata has no greater interest then an ordinary member of the public in this matter and accordingly will remain in this meeting.

CARRIED

7.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – CR – THOMAS LOBAN

Cr Thomas Loban stated that he has a declarable a conflict of interest in item 14.1 and 14.3, (as defined by *Local Government Act 2009, section 150ES (3)(a)(i)*) as follows:

I, Cr Thomas Loban, inform the meeting that I have a declarable conflict of interest due to being close associate of Torres Strait Shipping Pty Ltd.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2009, Chapter 6, Part 2, Division 5A, Cr. Thomas Loban advise to depart the Council Meeting and take no part in the Agenda Item.

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/3
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

CARRIED

7.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – CR – GABRIEL BANI

Cr Gabriel Bani stated that he has a declarable a conflict of interest in item 14.6, (as defined by *Local Government Act 2009, section 150ES (3)(a)(i)*) as follows:

I, Cr Gabriel Bani, inform the meeting that I have a declarable conflict of interest due to being close family associate.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2009, Chapter 6, Part 2, Division 5A, Cr. Gabriel Bani advise to depart the Council Meeting and take no part in the Agenda Item.

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/4
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

CARRIED

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 17 MARCH 2026

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /5
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 March 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED

9 BUSINESS ARISING

CEO referred to the 'Matters for Action following a Council Meeting' document provided to Councillors with updated information on the 17 March 2026 Council Meeting.

10 NOTIFIED MOTIONS

Nil

11 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

11.1 COUNCILLOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /6
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That the activities contained in the Mayoral monthly report be endorsed by Council.

CARRIED

12 EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS

12.1 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT 2024 - 2025

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /7
Moved: Deputy ToshioNakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That the Council note the Torres Shire Council Final Management Report 2024-25.

CARRIED

12.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /8
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

That the activities contained in the Chief Executive Officer's monthly report be endorsed by Council.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting is adjourned for Morning Tea at 10:21am and resumed 10:47 am.

ATTENDANCE: Dorene Riley (Finance Manager) entered in the Council Meeting at 10:47AM

12.3 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FINANCIAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /9
Moved: Cr. Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That Council:

Note the Financial Report for the period ended March 2026 as presented.

Note the attachments for the period ended March 2026 listed as follows:

1. Cash Position March 2026
2. Income and Expenditure Airport March 2026
3. Income and Expenditure all of Council March 2026
4. Revenue Graph Actual vs Budget March 2026
5. Expenses Graph Actual vs Budget March 2026
6. Statement of Financial Position March 2026

CARRIED

12.4 ADOPTION OF REVENUE POLICY 2026/27

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /10
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

That the Council:

1. Adopt the Revenue Policy 2026/27

CARRIED

12.5 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /11
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

That Council note the Corporate and Community Services Report for March 2026 as presented.

CARRIED

12.6 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2026 ADJUSTMENT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4 /12
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* the Ordinary Meeting of Council dates for the month of May 2026 and November 2026 be amended to the following:

Amended 2026 OCM Dates		
Month	**Date**	**Time**
May	Tuesday, 26 May	9.00am
October	Tuesday, 27 October	9.00am

And that the changes be published on the Council Website.

CARRIED

12.7 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/13
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Mayor Eslie Seriat

That Council receives and notes the Capital Works Program Report for April 2026.

CARRIED

Departure: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata departed the Council Meeting at 12:17pm

Arrival: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata returned in the Council Meeting at 12:19pm

12.8 MINOR CHANGE TO DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FOR MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE – DWELLING UNIT AND UNDEFINED LAND USE (CULTURAL ACTIVITIES) – IDAS24/02 – JOEY JOSIA LAIFOO & MELISSA LEANNE CRUMP C/ URBAN SYNC – 42 DOUGLAS STREET, THURSDAY ISLAND

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/14
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

RECOMMENDATION A – DECISION NOTICE

That Torres Shire Council approve the Change Application (Minor) for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use– Dwelling Unit and Undefined Land Use (Cultural Activities) on land located at 42 Douglas Street, Thursday Island, formally described as Lot 1 RP716988, subject to the following conditions:

(A) That condition 2.1 be amended as follows;

<table>
<tr><td>2.0</td><td colspan="5">Approved Plans and Documents</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2.1</td><td colspan="5">The approved development must be completed and maintained generally in accordance with the approved plans and documents, except where amended by the conditions of this permit.</td><td>At all times</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Drawing No.</td><td>Document Name</td><td>Revision</td><td>Date</td><td>Drawn by</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>SK01</td><td>Cover Sheet</td><td>2</td><td>20/12/2023</td><td>Nevele</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>SK02</td><td>Perspective Views</td><td>2</td><td>20/12/2023</td><td>Nevele</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>SK03</td><td>Site Plan</td><td>2</td><td>20/12/2023</td><td>Nevele</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>SK04</td><td>Ground Floor Plan</td><td>2</td><td>20/12/2023</td><td>Nevele</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>SK05</td><td>First Floor Plan</td><td>2</td><td>20/12/2023</td><td>Nevele</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

	SK06	Roof Plan	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK07	Elevations	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK08	Section A-A	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	Stage 1					
	SK01	Cover Sheet	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	SK03	Ground Floor Plan	4	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK06	Elevations	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	Stage 2					
	SK01	Cover Sheet	5	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	SK03	Ground Floor Plan	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK04	First Floor Plan	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK05	Roof Plan	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	
	SK06	Elevations	2	20/12/2023	Nevele	

(B) All other conditions remain as per decision notice dated 18 July 2024.

CARRIED

12.9 CHANGE REPRESENTATIONS - DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL – IDAS 25/20 – JOEY JOSIA LAIFOO & MELISSA LEANNE CRUMP C/ URBAN SYNC – 42 DOUGLAS STREET, THURSDAY ISLAND

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/15
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the application by Joey Josia Laifoo & Melissa Leanne Crump c/ Urban Sync seeking a Negotiated Decision Notice for the Development Approval for the Material Change of Use for Rooming Accommodation over Lot 1 RP716988 located at 42 Douglas Street, Thursday Island be approved in full.

2. That condition 2.1 be amended as follows;

2.0	**Approved Plans and Documents**					
2.1	The approved development must be completed and maintained generally in accordance with the approved plans and documents, except were amended by the conditions of this permit.					At all times
	Drawing No.	Document Name	Revision	Date	Drawn by	
	SK01	Cover Sheet	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	SK02	Site Plan	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	SK04	Ground Floor Plan	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	
	SK07	Elevations	4	21/01/2026	Nevele	

3. That condition 3.0, including condition 3.1 and condition 3.2 be deleted.

CARRIED

12.10 COMMERCIAL USE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS AND ROADS – THURSDAY ISLAND POST OFFICE

This agenda item is put on the table.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned for Lunch at 1:03pm and resumed 1:55pm.

12.11 ENQUIRY – PROPOSED BUOY MOORING – TORRES STRAIT SHIPPING PTY LTD

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/16
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

That Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a letter of response to be provided to the customer advising Council has no concerns with the proposal with respect to its location regarding known Council assets and further, Council recommends that MSQ considers a light to be installed as part of the buoy mooring siting.

CARRIED

12.12 OPERATIONAL WORKS PROGRAM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council receives and notes the Operational Works Update Report for April 2026.

CARRIED

DEPARTURE: Edward Kulpa, DPPE departed the Council Meeting at 2:26pm

ARRIVAL: Edward Kulpa, DPPE arrived in the Council Meeting at 2:27pm

13 LATE ITEMS

13.1 AUDIT RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 16 MARCH 2026

This agenda item is put on the table.

13.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (EMPOWERING COUNCILS) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/19
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council notes update on the Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (the Bill).

CARRIED

DEPARTURE: Mayor Elsie Seriat departed the Council Meeting at 2:41pm

DEPARTURE: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata departed the Council Meeting at 2:41pm

DEPARTURE: CEO Mary Bani departed the Council Meeting at 2:41pm

ARRIVAL: Mayor Elsie Seriat arrived in the Council Meeting at 2:43pm

ARRIVAL: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata arrived in the Council Meeting at 2:43pm

ARRIVAL: CEO Mary Bani arrived in the Council Meeting at 2:44pm

14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Regulation s.254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

14.1 In Committee – Scrap Metal Project – Request to Engage a Barge Company for Cross Harbour Transport of Vehicles

14.2 In Committee – TI Stadium Floor Repair Tender Award

14.3 In Committee – Consideration of Request for Road Reserve Purchase 67 Summer

14.4 In Committee – Horn Island Airport License Agreement

14.5 In Committee – Horn Island Airport Fees and Charges 2026/27

14.6 In Committee – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Contract Update

DEPARTURE: Cr Thomas Loban departed the Council Meeting at 2:45pm whilst agenda item 14.1 was discussed.

Time: 2:45PM
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/20
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council go into In Committee.

CARRIED

Time: 3:02pm
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/21
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council come out of In Committee.

CARRIED

14.1 IN COMMITTEE – SCRAP METAL PROJECT – REQUEST TO ENGAGE A BARGE COMPANY FOR CROSS HARBOUR TRANSPORT OF VEHICLES

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/22
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

That Council:

1. Endorses the Report as presented; and
2. Supports the engagement of Strait Barging to undertake the work at a cost of $336,000 (excl. GST); and
3. Endorses the expected expenditure as budgeted.

CARRIED

ARRIVAL: Cr Thomas Loban returned to the Council Meeting 3:03pm.

Time: 3:03PM
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/23
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council go into In Committee.

CARRIED

Time: 3:48pm
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/24
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council come out of In Committee.

CARRIED

14.2 IN COMMITTEE – TI STADIUM FLOOR REPAIR TENDER AWARD

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/25
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

It is recommended that Council:

1) Appoint **TI Concrete Works** as preferred tenderer to enter into a contract with Torres Shire Council for Works For Queensland 2024-27 Program – Thursday Island Stadium floor repair for the sum of **$328,455.00 excluding GST**, and
2) delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer, under section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009 (QLD)*, the ability to execute the contract, approve payments, negotiate and finalise minor administrative or financial amendments and approve any variations, if required.

CARRIED

DEPARTURE: Cr Thomas Loban departed the Council Meeting at 3:13pm whilst item 14.3 item was discussed.

14.3 IN COMMITTEE – CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR ROAD RESERVE PURCHASE 67 SUMMER

This agenda item will stay on the table.

DEPARTURE: CEO, Mary Bani departed the Council Meeting at 3:17pm

ARRIVAL: CEO, Mary Bani returned in the Council Meeting at 3:21pm

ARRIVAL: Cr Thomas Loban returned to the Council Meeting at 3:35pm

14.4 IN COMMITTEE – HORN ISLAND AIRPORT LICENSE AGREEMENT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/26
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

That Council:

1. Approves the renewal of Licence Agreements for counter and office areas at Horn Island Airport as listed below for a term of three years commencing 1 August 2026 with a yearly increase of 4%.

Check in Counters:
Counters B and C – Sunstate Airlines (Qld) Pty Limited (Qantas)
Counter G – Sutcliffe Pty Ltd (Horizon Air)
Counter K/L – McGilvray Aviation Pty Ltd (Cape Air Transport)
Offices and Check in Counters:
Office F & Counter E– Torres Strait Air Pty Ltd
Office J & Counter I – Hinterland Aviation Pty Ltd

2. Delegates the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the Licence Agreements.

CARRIED

14.5 IN COMMITTEE – HORN ISLAND AIRPORT FEES AND CHARGES 2026/27

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/4/27
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That the Council:

1. Adopt the recommended increase of 4% for the budget year 2026/27
2. Authorise the CEO to notify Qantas Airlines and other operators of the adopted fees and charges 2026/27

CARRIED

14.6 IN COMMITTEE – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) CONTRACT UPDATE

This item is removed as matter is now redundant and no longer needs council's consideration.

CARRIED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 26 May 2026

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer by Cr Gabriel Bani at 4:15 pm.

Confirmed this day of

MAYOR