MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

21 July 2026

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

AGENDA CONTENTS

1 MEETING OPENED

The meeting opened with a prayer by Cr Gabriel Bani at 9:14am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 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.

2 ATTENDANCES

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

APOLOGIES

Cr Thomas Fujii provided written apology.

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/1
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

The Council received Cr Thomas Fujii written apology for the Ordinary Council Meeting 21 July 2026.

CARRIED

3 CONDOLENCES / CONGRATULATIONS

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 Ronald Tyrell Viti*
- *Miss Carolyn Auda*
- *Miss Rita Kebisu*
- *Ms Anna Lala Sebasio*

- *Mr Jeffrey Aniba-Waia*

4 DEPUTATIONS / VISITORS

NIL

5 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/2
Moved:
Seconded:

That the Ordinary Council Meeting be adjourned at 9:45 to 9:50 to allow Council to conduct the Australian Citizenship Ceremony, and that the meeting reconvene immediately following the conclusion of the ceremony.

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

Time	Australian Citizenship Ceremony – 21 July 2026	Location
10:00AM TO 10:30AM	• 9:30 am – Citizenship recipients arrive and assemble in the foyer. • 10:00 am – Australian Citizenship Ceremony. • 10:30 am – Morning tea	Torres Shire Council Chambers 68 Douglas Street, Thursday Island Qld 4875

CARRIED

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN THE MATTER OF THE AGENDA

NIL

7 MAYORAL NOTIFIED MOTIONS

NIL

8 BUSINESS ARISING

CEO referred to the 'Matters for Action following a Council Meeting' document provided to Councillors with updated information on the 26 May 2026 Council Meeting.

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 16 June 2026

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/4
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16 June 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED

9.2 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 19 June 2026 Adjourned to 29 June 2026

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/5
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 19 June 2026 adjourned to 29 June 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED

10 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

10.1 COUNCILLOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/6
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

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

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

That the Ordinary Council Meeting be adjourned at 9:47am to allow Council to conduct the Australian Citizenship Ceremony, and that the meeting reconvene immediately following the conclusion of the ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting is adjourned from Australian Citizenship Ceremony and followed by morning tea and Council resumed at 10:35am.

11 EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS

11.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/7
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

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

CARRIED

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

11.2 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FINANCIAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/8
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council:

- Note the Financial Report for the period ended June 2026 as presented.
- Note the attachments for the period ended June 2026 listed as follows:

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

CARRIED

DEPARTURE: Dorene Riley departed the Council Meeting 11:06am

11.3 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/9
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That Council receives and notes the Corporate and Community Services Report for July 2026.

CARRIED

11.4 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/10
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani

Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

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

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting is adjourned for Lunch at 12:10pm and resumed 12:58pm

DEPARTURE: Kimberley Yorkston departed 12:30pm council meeting, Isabella Isabella Muhamad-Mosby arrived 12:30pm to take minutes for the remainder of the council meeting.

11.5 OPERATIONAL WORKS PROGRAM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/11
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Cr Thomas Loban

That Council receives and notes the Operational Works Program Report for June 2026.

CARRIED

ATTENDANCE: Julian Bodenmann from Preston Law joined the Council Meeting via teams at 1:14pm to discuss 11.6 Local Laws Amendments.

DEPARTURE: Julian Bodenmann departed the Council Meeting at 1:30pm.

11.6 LOCAL LAWS AMENDMENTS

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/12
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

That Council resolves to:

1. propose to adopt *Amending Local Law No. 1 (No Smoking Places) 2026* and *Amending Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (No Smoking Places and Personal Mobility Devices) 2026*, in terms of the draft circulated at Council's meeting (**the New Local Laws**);

2. pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* (**the Act**), delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to:

(a) under section 29(1) of the Act, decide the public consultation requirements for the New Local Law and proceed with public consultation;

(b) under section 29A of the Act, carry out State interest checks on the New Local Law;

(c) under section 38 of the Act and section 15 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

(i) decide how the review of the New Local Laws for anti-competitive provisions (**the Review**) is to be conducted;

(ii) identify the matters with which the Review of the New Local Laws must deal;

(iii) decide the consultation process and how the process is to be used in the Review.

CARRIED

11.7 PROPOSED BUOY MOORING – MSQ

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/13
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Cr Gabriel Bani

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 for the new mooring as per the provided location.

CARRIED

11.8 PROPOSED SHOW HOLIDAY DATES – WINDS OF ZENADTH CULTURAL FESTIVAL 2027 AND 2029

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/14
Moved: Mayor Elsie Seriat
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

That Council:

1. Notes that at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 February 2025, Council endorsed the Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival dates for:

- 14–17 September 2027; and
- 11–14 September 2029.

2. Endorses the following Torres Shire Show Holiday dates associated with the Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival:
   - Friday 17 September 2027; and
   - Friday 14 September 2029.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to submit the necessary application to the Queensland Office of Industrial Relations seeking Ministerial approval and gazettal of the above Show Holiday dates pursuant to the *Holidays Act 1983*.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all administrative actions necessary to give effect to this resolution, including notifying relevant government agencies, neighbouring local governments and key stakeholders.

CARRIED

12 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*:

12.1 In Committee – Request for Extended Lease Period – Babcock Helicopter Base, Horn Island Airport

12.2 In Committee – Undersea Water Pipeline Analysis Tender Award

Time: 1:41pm
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/15
Moved: Cr Thomas Loban
Seconded: Cr Gabirel Bani

That Council go into In Committee.

CARRIED

Time: 2:55pm
RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/16
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

That Council come out of In Committee.

CARRIED

12.1 IN COMMITTEE – REQUEST FOR EXTENDED LEASE PERIOD – BABCOCK HELICOPTER BASE, HORN ISLAND AIRPORT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/17
Moved: Cr Gabriel Bani
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata

That Council:

1. Notes the request from Babcock Australasia seeking an extended Lease Term for the new Helicopter Base facility at Horn Island Airport; and
2. Approves the request for a Lease structure of an initial ten (10) years with eight (8) additional five-year terms (total term of 50 years); and
3. Approves the extended lease on the condition that Babcock Australasia assumes full responsibility for, and funds, all repair, upgrades and maintenance works to the existing hangar for the remainder of the current lease, expiring on 30 June 2032; and
4. Requires Babcock Australasia to submit a detailed scope of works for the repairs of the existing Hangar, for Council review and approval within thirty (30) business days of Council's approval; and
5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute the necessary lease documentation and associated legal agreements to give effect to Council's decision.

CARRIED

12.2 IN COMMITTEE – UPDATE: DPHW HOUSING STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION Min. 26/7/18
Moved: Deputy Mayor Toshio Nakata
Seconded: Mayor Elsie Seriat

It is recommended that Council:

1. Notes the draft Capital Housing Strategy and proposed program development priorities.
2. Endorses the continued development of the Strategy in partnership with the Department of Housing and Public Works.
3. For the Yamizi Street Subdivision vacant lots, and the master planning of Lot 805 and 806 on SP292840, Horn Island, that the Council advises the Department of Housing and Public Works that 50% of land are considered initially for social housing usage.

CARRIED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 18 August 2026

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer by Cr Gabriel Bani at 3:37pm.

Confirmed this day of

MAYOR