



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 26 March 2025 at 9:00 am  
Council Chambers

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**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

**In the absence of Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams chaired the meeting.**

**Chairperson Deputy Mayor Williams declared the meeting open at 9:27 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.**

**2 PERSONS PRESENT**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	Elizabeth Williams (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor	Ralph F. Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Tamar Nawirridj
Councillor	Monica Wilton
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	Steven Nabalmarda

**STAFF PRESENT**

Interim Chief Executive Officer	Ben Waugh
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao
Projects Manager	Clem Beard
Governance Advisor	Jasmine Mortimore

### 3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice.

#### **OCM53/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the absence of Mayor Woods, Cr Nadjamerrek, Cr Phillips, Cr Marrawal, Cr Dann;
2. Notes the apology received from Mayor Woods, Cr Nadjamerrek, Cr Phillips, Cr Marrawal, Cr Dann; and
3. Determines Mayor Woods, Cr Nadjamerrek, Cr Phillips, Cr Marrawal, Cr Dann are absent with permission of the Council.

**CARRIED**

### 4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

#### **OCM54/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2025.

**CARRIED**

### 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.

#### **OCM55/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL receive no additional declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2025.

**CARRIED**

### 6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>
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The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

**OCM56/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 18 February 2025 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes.

**OCM57/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 19 February 2025 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting Minutes.

**OCM58/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Nabalmarda**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL noted the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings and reviewed decisions made by the Local Authority:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Date Held</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
<b>Gunbalanya</b>	<b>5 February 2025</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>14 May 2025</b>

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes.

**OCM59/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL noted the minutes of 27 February 2025 Risk Management and Audit Committee and reviewed decisions made by the Committee.

**CARRIED**

## 7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Red Lily Health Board</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Shirley Spicer joined the meeting at 9:39am and left at 9:56am  
The Council considered a report on Visitor - Red Lily Health Board.

**OCM60/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Onus**  
**Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the update from Red Lily Health Board; and
2. Thanks Shirley from Red Lily Health Board.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Kira Bourke from Bawinanga Homeland Aboriginal Corporation joined the meeting at 10:10am and left at 10:19am.

The Council considered a report on Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation.

**OCM61/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Onus**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL noted the discussions with Kira Bourke from Bawinanga Homeland Aboriginal Corporation.

**CARRIED**

## 8 ACTION REPORTS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Action Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

**OCM62/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Action Items*;
2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register; and
3. Item 9 information to be provided in a report to the next scheduled council meeting for Council decision.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium.

**OCM63/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth**

**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium*;
2. Nominate Mayor Woods, Cr Namanurki, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Community and Council Services to attend the LGANT Symposium;
3. Approve all associated costs for attending the LGANT Symposium;
4. Submit the motion on Increased funding for public lighting to the LGANT General Meeting; and
5. Submit the motion on Increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access and roads in regional and remote Australia to the LGANT General Meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO</b>

The Council considered a report on Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities.

**OCM64/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities*; and
2. Support the National Federal Election Funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.

**OCM65/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly*;
2. Submit the motion on Increased funding for public lighting to the National General Assembly; and
3. Submit the motion on Increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access and roads in regional and remote Australia to the National General Assembly.

## 9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Meeting took a break at 11:18am and recommenced at 11:55am.  
The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

**OCM66/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL receive and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO</b>

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor.

**OCM67/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Nabalmarda**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor*.

CARRIED

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the CEO</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Waugh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

**OCM68/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Wilton**  
**Seconded Cr Nabalmarda**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the CEO*; and
2. Notes the CEO and author for the reporting period was Ben Waugh.

CARRIED

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Technical Services Projects Report</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Projects Report.

**OCM69/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Nabalmarda**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Projects Report*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Regional Waste Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

The Council considered a report on Regional Waste Update.

**OCM70/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Regional Waste Update*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Regional Cemeteries Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

Meeting broke at 12:37pm and recommenced at 12:57pm

The Council considered a report on Regional Cemeteries Update.

**OCM71/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Blyth**

That Council receives and note the report titled *Regional Cemeteries Update*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Linda Veugen-Yong, Human Resources Manager (Acting)</b>

The Council considered a report on Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025.

**OCM72/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.8</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Cr Dann and Matthew Ryan, NLC Chair joined the meeting at 1:10pm.

The Council considered a report on 2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period.

**OCM73/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Namanurki**

**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance</b>

Cr Dann and Matthew Ryan, NLC Chair left the meeting at 1:22pm.

The Council considered a report on Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025.

**OCM74/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Nabalmarda**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025*.

**CARRIED**

**10 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Elected Member Questions with or without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Elected Member Questions with or without Notice.

**OCM75/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

That the Chairperson invites questions with or without notice from Elected Members.

**CARRIED**

**11 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.

**OCM76/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public at 1:30pm to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

**12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes.



**OCM77/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 19 February 2025 Confidential Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

**OCM78/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Onus**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager</b>

The Council considered a report on Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council.

**OCM79/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Cr Nabalmarda**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council; and
2. Note the status of outstanding Land Use Agreements.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Funding Levels</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Waugh, Interim Chief Executive Officer</b>

The Council considered a report on Local Government Funding Levels.

**OCM80/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Nabalmarda**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Local Government Funding Levels*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disposal of Fleet Landcruiser 200 Series CF41QP</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

*The Report will Remain Confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(e). It contains information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Movements in Reserves</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

*The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(e). It contains information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.*

### **13 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public.

**OCM83/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approve to disclose the selected resolution 12.1, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5 from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes; and
2. Open the meeting to the public at after the discussion of confidential items.

**CARRIED**

### **14 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 29 April 2025.

### **15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson Deputy Mayor Williams declared the meeting closed at 2:15 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 March 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 March 2025.