Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

Minutes – Council Meeting 20 & 21 August 2025

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 20 & 21 AUGUST 2025

Attendance

Mayor Bruce Simpson
Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge
Cr Tom Langton
Cr Daniel Weazel

Officers: ***CEO - Zala***
Minute Taker - Eileen Jacobs
Advisor – Brett De Chastel

9.27 am ***Mayor Opened Meeting***
Welcome to Country –
Sorry Business – 1 Minute Silence

9.31am ***Entered Meeting - Leighton Costello Immaculate Care***

Leighton advised that he has recently been employed by Immaculate Care (NDIS). Their Brisbane base is in Ipswich. They are currently expanding into country areas (Cherbourg is included) providing quality services to aboriginal clients. Currently has office space in Graham House 3 days per week. Cater for a client base 9yrs old – 65 yrs old.

Left Meeting – Leighton Costello Immaculate Care

Leave of Absence – Cr Carla Fisher

Cr Carla Fisher has made a request for Leave of Absence from Council Meeting on 21 August due to medical reason.

Resolution

Council resolves to grant a Leave of Absence to Cr Carla Fisher for council meeting 21 August due to Medical Reasons.

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2802 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Councillor Obligations

Prescribed Conflict of Interest

Nil

Declarable Conflict of Interest

Nil

Register of Interest

Nil

Minute Approval

Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council resolves that it adopts the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 & 17 July 2025.

Moved: ***Cr Tom Langton***
Seconded: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***

Motion No. 2803 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

MAYORS REPORT

Council resolves that the Mayor's Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Cr Daniel Weazel***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2804 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

9.40am ***Cr Carla Fisher entered meeting'***

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

CEO presented his report

Cherbourg Sport & Recreation Facility Plan

The Cherbourg Sport & Recreation Facility Plan was presented to council for endorsement.

Resolution

1. ***Council adopts the Cherbourg Sport & Recreation Facility Plan 2025.***

2. ***Council use this plan to proceed with future recommended projects including Works for Queensland funding, Applying for more capital funding for the sports projects.***

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Motion No. 2805 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Code of Conduct - Update

The Code of Conduct Update was presented for Council endorsement.

Resolution

That in relation to the proposed Code of Conduct for Council staff, Council:-

A. Note the report from the CEO advising that the current Code of Conduct for Council staff is being updated and further note that the Code of Conduct will be approved by the CEO pursuant to section 17 of the Public Sector Ethics Act; and

B. Request the CEO to ensure that all Council staff covered by the Code of Conduct are provided training on the provisions of the Code and how it is applied in practice.

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Motion No. 2806 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Local Disaster Management Plan

The Local Disaster Management Plan was presented for council endorsement.

Resolution

That Council

A. Council endorses the updated version of the Local Disaster Management Plan

B. Update the council website with new updated version

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Motion No. 2807 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Elders Advisory Group

Minutes from the Elders Advisory Group meeting held on 30 July has been attached for council perusal.

Resolution

That Council

1. ***Endorses the Elders Advisory Group membership as per the report***
2. ***Council pays the seating fees from council budget - $150 Sitting Fee***

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2808 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Wide Bay Burnett Urban Water Alliance Update

The Wide Bay Burnett Urban Water Alliance Update was presented to Council.

Resolution

Council confirms the receipt of the Wide Bay Burnett Urban Water Alliance Update.

Moved: ***Cr Tom Langton***
Seconded: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***

Motion No. 2809 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Burrundi - Cherbourg Build Form Design Principle

The Cherbourg Build Form Design Principle was presented to Council

Resolution

That Council endorses the final Cherbourg Build Form Design Principles – Community Engagement Report.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2810 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

LGAQ Annual Conference – 129th at Gold Coast

The LGAQ Annual Conference - 129th will be held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre on 20-22 October 2025. All Councillors, CEO and Council Advisor will be attending.

Resolution

That all members of council, the CEO & Council Advisor attend the LGAQ Annual Conference on 20-22 October 2025.

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Motion No. 2811 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the CEO's Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Cr Tom Langton***
Seconded: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***

Motion No. 2812 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The Economic & Community Development Manager presented his report

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Economic & Community Development Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2813 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

OPERATION DEPT REPORT

The Operation Manager presented his report.

New Footpath Project

Council agreed that all footpaths should eventually connect to the cultural footpath that leads to the turtles, and that this becomes a new project.

Resolution

Council resolves that a new footpath project (connect to the cultural path) be added to the new project list.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2814 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Operation Dept Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***
Seconded: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Motion No. 2815 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CORPORTATE SERVICES REPORT

The CEO presented the Corporate Services Report.

Resolution

Council resolves that the Corporate Services Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Cr Daniel Weazel***
Seconded: ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge***

Motion No. 2816 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Community Services Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton***

Motion No. 2817 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

Justin Prior

Seeking financial assistance for the Cherbourg United U's 16 Rugby League Team to compete at the 2025 Murri Carnival.

Council agreed to sponsor this team for $500.

Resolution

Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council resolves to donate $500 to the Cherbourg United U16's Rugby League Team to enable them to compete in the 2025 Arthur Beatson Foundation QLD Murri Carnival

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Daniel Weazel***

Motion No. 2818 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Talisha Ann Hopkins

Talisha is seeking financial assistance for her 2 children Jo-Kayla and Dalemaria Hopkins who have been chosen to represent Wide Bay in the upcoming (11-12), (13-14) Girls Rugby League State Championships in Townsville.

Council agreed to donate $200 to Jo-Kayla Hopkins and $200 to Dalemaria Hopkins.

Resolution

that Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council donates $200 each to Jo-Kayla Hopkins and Dalemaria Hopkins to compete in the Qld Girls Rugby League State Championships in Townsville.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Daniel Weazel***

Motion No. 2819 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Sylvia Cobbo

Sylvia is requesting endorsement and support for Sil Co Group.

Council will meet with Sylvia to discuss Sil Co Group business further.

Rhonda Sandow

Advising that Cherbuild wish to continue and build a site office for the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council and is seeking plans (site and building).

Unfortunately, council has no budget for this building.

Resolution

that Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council does not have budget to build a site office at this time.

Moved: Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge
Seconded: Cr Carla Fisher

Motion No. 2820 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Murgon Rugby League Club

Murgon Rugby League is seeking sponsorship for the Murgon Rugby League Team of the Era 70's-90's in Honour of Mark Smith. This reunion is a tribute to generations of players, supporters and community spirit.

Sponsorship of Murgon Rugby League Club of $1000 was put to a vote.

For:	*4*	*Mayor Bruce Simpson* *Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge* *Cr Carla Fisher* *Cr Daniel Weazel*
Against:	*1*	*Cr Tom Langton*

Resolution

That Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council sponsor the Murgon Rugby League Club $1000 (for Reunion tribute to generations of players, supporters and community spirit).

Moved: Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge
Seconded: Cr Daniel Weazel

Motion No. 2821 Carried

For: 4
Against: 1

Bunya Songlines

Info Community engagement and landscape design proposal for Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council – Muddy Flats and Cherbourg Weir.

Errol Neal

Advising that the Yarrabah Songline Dancers Tour has been postponed until September.

Dept State Development Infrastructure & Planning

Info - Assessment regime for renewables in Queensland.

John Smith Gumbula

John has sent a Collaborative Collective Expression of Interest – Infrastructure, Innovation & Regional Development.

Council has not called for any Expression of Interest at present, however John Smith Gumbula is welcome to submit one when it does.

Ramone Close – PLANZZ Australia Pty Ltd

Ramone is seeking a letter of support from Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council for his new business.

Council will obtain a business case from Ramone before it considers supporting his business.

Minister – Transport and Main Roads

Advice that Council has been successful in obtaining CRC Program funding of $373,075 for Murray Road

Lance O'Chin

Lance has offered to provide the music for the Cherbourg Golden Oldies.

To be referred to Community Services as they are organising the Cherbourg Golden Oldies this year.

12.00pm Meeting Adjourned for lunch
12.30pm Meeting Recommenced

12.30pm Presentation - Leadership styles by Brett De Chastel

Murgon Road – Property

The property along Murgon Road is for sale. Council views this property as having great potential for future progress and agreed to seek funding to purchase this property.

Resolution

That council seek funding to purchase the adjoining property along Murgon Road.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Daniel Weazel***

Motion No. 2822 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

1.00pm ***Meeting Closed***

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 21 AUGUST 2025

Attendance

Mayor Bruce Simpson
Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge
Cr Tom Langton
Cr Daniel Weazel

Apologies: ***Cr Carla Fisher***

Officers: ***CEO - Zala***
Minute Taker - Eileen Jacobs

9.32am ***Mayor Opened Meeting***
Welcome to Country – Cr Daniel Weazel
Sorry Business – 1 Minute Silence

9.39am ***Entered Meeting - George Fisher***

George advised that Cherbourg Aboriginal Junior Rugby League has received the grant to cement their presentation area. The dressing shed needs to be repurposed to include a sink. He also advised that the South Burnett Rugby League Grand Final will be held in Cherbourg.

10.00am ***Left Meeting - George Fisher***

10.31am ***Entered Meeting - Barambah Local Justice Group***
Grace Bond
Shirley Simpson
Darri Lea

Grace and Shirley provided a quick update of the Barambah Local Justice Group projects. They are currently seeking more elders to become a part of the Murri Court.

10.45am ***Left Meeting - Barambah Local Justice Group***
Grace Bond
Shirley Simpson
Darrie Lea

10.46am ***Entered Meeting -*** ***Family Support & Commissioning Practice***
Christian Coulahan
Lisa LaFrankie

Advising that CTC will manage the Safe Haven Program for a further 2 years until September 2027. Nominated organisation CRAICCHS is unable to operate the Safe Haven Program at this stage.

Families will fund CRAICCHS to run some children programs to enable an easier transition at the end of the two years.

11.00am ***Left Meeting*** ***-*** ***Family Support & Commissioning Practice***
Christian Coulahan
Lisa LaFrankie
Luke Chea

11.03am ***Entered Meeting -*** ***Jennifer McDonald CBA***

Jennifer is promoting Staying Safe Online Program. Being aware of Fraud and Scams, especially in indigenous and older clients. She would like to hold a meeting, forum in Cherbourg or meet with organisations to promote this program as it is important that everyone is aware of fraud and scams and what action can be taken to prevent or address them.

11.22am ***Left Meeting*** ***-*** ***Jennifer McDonald CBA***

11.22am ***Entered Meeting -*** ***Faculty of Engineering- Acting Assistant Dean, Engagement with Indigenous Australians - QUT***
Craig Cowled
Cheryl Ridgeway
Luke Chee (Water Engineer)

Craig provided a brief update of the faculty of engineering, their indigenous students and possible internships at the Council for students and project ideas for students.

CEO advised of council's Water Treatment Plants future upgrade program asked if Luke Chee could assist with Council's testing, operating system etc. Luke was happy to assist wherever he could.

12.00am ***Left Meeting*** ***-*** ***Faculty of Engineering- Acting Assistant Dean, Engagement with Indigenous Australians - QUT***
Craig Cowled
Cheryl Ridgeway
Luke Chee (Water Engineer)

12.00pm ***Meeting Adjourned for Lunch***
1.00pm ***Meeting Recommenced***

1.00pm Entered Meeting - Gundoo Early Childhood Learning Centre Staff
Elvie Sandow
Rhianon Insch-Watkins

Mayor Welcomed Elvie and Rhianon to the meeting.

Elvie advised that Gundoo had some issues, firstly that the Mayor took down a Gundoo article from Council's website. And asked if Council is here for organisations. That Gundoo caters for kids, early learning is very important for children. That Gundoo had no support from Council, no one from council reached out to Gundoo – when they had a bomb scare, protest.

Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge - Gundoo could have reached out to council as well.

Mayor asked what Gundoo wanted from Council.

Rhianon told council that they are requesting council support by inviting Council to attend a morning tea.

Rhianon advised that she is now the Director of Gundoo and they were trying to build the organisation back up, build up its reputation and create a safe space. Gundoo currently has 17 Children attending, can cater for a maximum of 23 children. Gundoo caters for fulltime working parents, children under care. There is not enough staff at present.

Elvie advised that the investigation into Rhianan had cleared her.

Elvie Sandow - When Gundoo had a positive story the Mayor took it down.

Mayor Bruce Simpson - Not True

Elvie Sandow – Mayor told people to protest at Gundoo

Mayor Bruce Simpson – Not True

Rhianon notified that Gundoo will be holding a morning tea on 29 September 2025 and will invite council. Gundoo wants to move forward in a positive way.

1.20pm Left Meeting - Gundoo Early Childhood Learning Centre staff
Elvie Sandow
Rhianon Insch-Watkins

1.30pm ***Entered Meeting*** **–** ***Via TEAMS (First Nations Housing and Homelessness)***
Johnathon Watson
Craig Ingram
Tammie Rae

Johnathon and team presented the Cherbourg Local Housing Plan Implementation.

Council will invite Johnathon and team back at our next meeting to discuss the Cherbourg Local Housing Plan Implementation further.

1.54pm ***Left Meeting*** **–** ***Via TEAMS (First Nations Housing and Homelessness)***
Johnathon Watson
Craig Ingram
Tammie Rae

1.55pm ***Meeting Closed***