Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

Minutes – Council Meeting 20 August 2026

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 20 AUGUST 2026

Attendance

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

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

9.35 am ***Mayor Bruce Simpson opened Meeting***
Welcome to Country – Cr Daniel Weazel
Sorry Business – 1 Minute Silence

Councillor Obligations

Conflict of Interest

Nil

Mayoral Leave

Mayor Bruce Simpson was scheduled to take Mayoral Leave from 24-30 August 2026 however he will be conducting advocacy work throughout that week.

Noted

Minute Approval

Council resolves that the minutes of the council meeting held on 16 July 2026 be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3109 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor presented his Report.

Tarita Fisher

Tarita is seeking advice on community ethics approval and appropriate governance processes for her PhD research project, titled 'Inside the Black Envelope: Understanding institutional racism in the health system'.

Resolution

that Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council approves and supports Tarita Fishers Phd research project "'Inside the Black Envelope: Understanding institutional racism in the health system'.

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

Motion No. 3110 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Mayor's Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3111 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CHIEF EXECUTUVE OFFICER

Annual Performance of the Corporate Plan 2025/2030

CEO presented the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Receives and notes the CEO's Annual Performance Report against the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030.***
2. ***Notes the excellent progress achieved across the Corporate Plan during the reporting period.***
3. ***Notes the significant achievements in infrastructure, community safety, education, housing, local employment, financial sustainability, workforce engagement and community engagement.***
4. ***Notes the Indigenous Land Use Agreement with the Wakka Wakka Prescribed Body Corporate as an area requiring further attention.***
5. ***Supports the continued implementation, monitoring and annual reporting of the Corporate Plan 2025-2030 priorities.***

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

Motion No. 3112 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Mayor and Councillors – Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policies

CEO presented the Mayor and Councillors – Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policies
The following amendments are proposed:

A. Council Credit Card - Mayor

Under Section 2.3.5, the policy will provide:

Provide a Council credit card for official Council business use only. All expenses incurred must be supported by appropriate receipts and submitted in accordance with Council's financial policies and procedures.

The credit card is to be used strictly for official Council business and will be subject to Council's existing financial controls and acquittal requirements.

B. Council Shirts

Section 2.3.3 will provide:

Provide three Council shirts during the first year of the elected term, with additional shirts provided as required thereafter.

C. Council Jacket

Section 2.3.3 will provide:

Provide one Council jacket bearing the Council logo for each elected term.

These items are provided to support the professional representation of Council by elected members at official meetings, functions, community events and other Council-related activities.

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Adopts the amended Mayor and Councillors- Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy.***
2. ***Approves the provision of a Council credit card to the Mayor for official Council business use only, with all expenditure supported by receipts and managed in accordance with Council's financial policies and procedures.***
3. ***Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor administrative amendments required to finalise and publish the policy.***

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

Motion No. 3113 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Queensland Audit Office (QAO} 2025/2026 Interim Audit Report

CEO presented the Queensland Audit Office (QAO} 2025/2026 Interim Audit Report

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Receives and notes the Queensland Audit Office 2025/2026 Interim Audit Report dated 23 July 2026.***
2. ***Adopts the 2025/2026 Interim Audit Report for Council's records and ongoing monitoring.***

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

Motion No. 3114 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Endorsement of "Walls That Speak: The Story of Cherbourg Hall" by Aunty Jeanette Brown

Council endorsement sought for the permanent display of the poem "Walls that Speak: The Story of the Cherbourg Hall' by Jeanette Brown within the newly upgraded Cherbourg Town Hall.

Council decided to vote on the proposed Resolution

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Endorse the permanent display of the poem in the upgraded Cherbourg Town Hall***
2. ***Acknowledge and thank Jeanette Brown for composing the poem for Cherbourg Town Hall***

Council voted on the resolution as follows:

For: 0
Against: 3
Abstained: 2

Council does not support the permanent display of Jeanette Brown's poem "Walls That Speak: The Story of the Cherbourg Hall" in the Town Hall.

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

Motion No. 3115 Carried

Cherbourg Community Cafe - Proposed Two-Year Lease:

Approval is sought to enter into a two-year lease with Ms Elvie Douglas for the operation of the Cherbourg Café.

Council decided to vote on the resolution

That Council;

1. ***endorse the leasing of the Cherbourg Community Cafe to Ms Elvie Douglas for a period of two (2) years.***
2. ***endorse the rental of the Café for $1,000 per month to Ms Elvie Douglas.***

Council voted on the resolution as follows

Result

For: 2
Against: 3
Abstained: 0

Council did not endorse the proposal to lease the Cherbourg Community Café to Ms Elvie Dougals for a period of 2 years.

Moved: Cr Daniel Weazel
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge

Motion No. 3116 Carried

LGAQ: A Shared Table - Cherbourg Community Recipe Submission

Council endorsement is sought for a traditional Cherbourg Deep Fried Scones recipe for submission to the LGAQ commemorative cookbook, A Shared Table.

LGAQ is developing A Shared Table, a commemorative cookbook featuring a recipe from each of Queensland's 77 councils. The cookbook will celebrate the people, places, cultures and communities that make Queensland's local government areas unique and will be launched at the LGAQ Annual Conference in Cairns from 19-21 October 2026 as part of LGAQ's 130th anniversary celebrations.

Resolution

That Council

1. ***Endorse the submission of "Cherbourg Deep Fried Scones - A Taste of Cherbourg" as Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council's recipe for the LGAQ A Shared Table commemorative cookbook.***
2. ***Endorse the recipe and accompanying community story as a representation of Cherbourg community food traditions, history and cultural identity.***
3. ***Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and submit the recipe and supporting material to LGAQ on behalf of Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.***

Moved: Cr Carla Fisher
Seconded: Cr Tom Langton

Motion No. 3117 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Grants Management Update - August 2026:

The CEO updated Council on grant outcomes, the funding pipeline and priority projects being progressed with support from Peak Services.

Peak Services continues to support Council to strengthen funding readiness and maximise external funding opportunities.

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Receive and note the August 2026 Grants Management Update.***
2. ***Note that Council has secured $4,453,934 in grant funding from six successful applications submitted between 1 January and 31 July 2026.***
3. ***Note that three grant applications totalling $985,625 remain under assessment.***
4. ***Note the four priority projects identified through the Executive Management Team and Peak Services priority project workshop.***
5. ***Support the continued development and submission of grant applications aligned with Council's Corporate Plan, strategic priorities and identified community needs.***

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

Motion No. 3118 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Chief Executive Officer's Report be adopted.

Moved: ***Cr Carla Fisher***
Seconded: ***Cr Tom Langton 9***

Motion No. 3019 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CORPORATE SERVICES

Corporate Services Manager Presented his Report

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Corporate Services Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3120 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Finance Report

Finance Officer presented the Finance Report.

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Finance Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3121 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Time Clock & Biometric Data Policy

The Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Time Clock & Biometric Date Policy was presented for council endorsement.

Resolution

That Council endorses the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Time Clock & Biometric Data Policy.

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

Motion No. 3122 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

HR Report

HR Officer presented her Report

Proposal to Amend the Workcover Claims Lodgement Process

HR Officer presented the proposal to amend the Workcover Claims Lodgement Process

Approval sought for an Amendment to the Workcare Claims Lodgement Process.

Resolution

That Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council approve the amendment to the Workers Compensation Claims Lodgement Process whereby, Council ceases payment of wages upon lodgement of a claim with LGW and compensation payments are administered by LGW following determination of liability.

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

Motion No. 3123 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the HR Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3124 Carried

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services Manager Presented her Report.

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Community Services Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3125 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Operations Manager Presented his Report

SES Shed

The Operations Manager presented his proposal for the new SES Shed Location at the Council Depot.

The proposed location site is beside the glazing shed at the Council Depot. Key advantages of this location includes; The SES requires a dedicated facility to support emergency response operations, equipment storage, and vehicle accommodation. Several potential locations have been considered, with the preferred site being within the Council Depot precinct.

The proposed site is situated adjacent to the existing glazing shed in an underutilised section of the depot. This area is currently unused and provides sufficient space for the development of a standalone SES facility while minimising impacts on existing Council operations. The site offers independent access from Mill Avenue, can be securely separated from depot operations, has access to essential services, and represents the most practical and cost-effective location for the proposed facility.

Resolution

That Council endorse in principle the area adjacent to the glazing shed within the Council Depot as the preferred location for the development of a new SES shed, subject to detailed design and costing.

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

Motion No. 3126 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Sale of Quick Spray Unit and Trailer

Lindsay Bligh is seeking approval to purchase the Quick Spray Unit and Trailer that he is currently using for $4,000.

Council currently owns the Quick Spray Unit and Trailer that is no longer required for operational purposes. newer replacement unit is available and in service, making the existing unit surplus to Council's needs.

The unit has been assessed in its current condition and is no longer considered essential to Council's ongoing operations. Retaining the equipment would provide limited benefit while continuing to incur storage and maintenance considerations.

Following careful consideration, Council has approved the sale of the equipment (Quick Spray Unit and Trailer) for $5,000 rather than the proposed $4,000 to Lindsay Bligh.

Resolution

That Council approve the sale of the equipment (Quick Spray Unit & Trailer) to Lindsay Bligh for $5000.

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

Motion No. 3127 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

That Council resolves that the Operations Dept Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3128 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

12.06pm ***Meeting adjourned for lunch***
12.58pm ***Meeting recommence***

12.58pm ***Entered Meeting - Michael Purcell, Peter Grace, Austin Paul***
(Capability Development & Assurance EMCC Queensland Police Service)

Michael presented the draft products for the CIDPE project. Council is happy with the project so far.

1.15pm ***Left Meeting - Michael Purcell, Peter Grace, Austin Paul***

Building Report

Cr Tom Langton declared interest and left meeting
Kenny Georgetown is the CEO of Murri Watch is Cr Tom Langtons's Brother

Muuri Watch - Youth Hub

Murri Watch has approached Council regarding a proposal to construct a Youth Hub building on rear of land at the TAFE/4 Collins Rd. The proposal includes a budget of $1M total for all necessary steps to deliver the completed Youth Hub:

Detailed costs for planning, subdivision and site development have not yet been prepared. Based on comparable current CASC projects, these preliminary works are estimated at approximately $250,000,leaving about $650,000 for construction.

Current construction costs indicate that the remaining $650,000 would be insufficient to deliver a compliant Class 9b public assembly building of a practical size.

Resolution

That Council thank Murri Watch for their offer to construct a Youth Hub however Council believes the proposed budget is insufficient to successfully deliver the project.

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

Motion No. 3129 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Cr Tom Langton entered meeting

Bell Street

Following its inspection of the site and concept design on 5 August 2026, Council identified two key concerns: the need to house existing residents of 10A–14 Bell Street throughout the redevelopment and the proposed five two-bedroom duplexes, which would not provide an appropriate mix of housing for the Cherbourg community or returning residents.

Council recommends preparing a delivery strategy that provides transitional, short-term and emergency housing for existing tenants while the Bell Street redevelopment is redesigned to include an appropriate mix of two-bedroom duplexes and four-bedroom houses.

Resolution

1. ***Council resolves that appropriate transitional, short-term and emergency housing arrangements be established to support the delivery of major redevelopment projects, including the Bell Street redevelopment in Cherbourg.***

2. ***Council resolves that the Bell Street redevelopment concept be reconfigured to include two four-bedroom houses and three two-bedroom duplexes, providing a more appropriate housing mix for the Cherbourg community and returning residents.***

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

Motion No.3130 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Transitional, Short Term, & Emergency Housing for Cherbourg via Modern Methods of Construction (MMC - Transportables)

An offer of several MMC houses has been made by the Qld State Government. Council has considered this offer & decided to investigate siting options that could accommodate the offer of MMC housing & address the TSTE needs.

CASC Operations & Building Dept. have undertaken an assessment of the available sites to locate several MMC houses:

- *TAFE site*
- *Stan Mickelo site*

Resolution

That Council resolves to engage with the Qld State Government's offer of MMC housing to confirm the funding pathway, delivery method, available designs, options for CASC input on designs, and potential construction timeframes for up to 10x MMC houses on the Stan Mickelo site.

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

Motion No. 3131 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

FNHH/QBuild proposed 26/27 Upgrade & Maintenance program

First Nations Housing & Homelessness have communicated to Council their proposed 26/27 Upgrade & Maintenance programs consisting of:

- *Upgrade Budget of $1,137,876, noting delivery expenditure on upgrades of $3,145,915 in 2025-26.*

o 9 projects in progress or not commenced by 30 June 2026

o 15 projects to be quoted

- *Maintenance Budget of $4,600,041 which is a further 36% ($1,236,122) uplift on the 2025-26 budget.*

The Upgrade program offer represents a substantial reduction in upgrade expenditure & scope of work being undertaken with very little in the way of improvements to health, safety, running costs of Cherbourg housing. The Maintenance budget allocation represents a substantial uplift in budget without a corresponding trend in increasing demand 24/25 to 25/26.

Resolution

Council resolves to request details from First Nations Housing & Homelessness regarding the reduction in upgrade expenditure & the intended purpose of the extra $1.23M allocated to the maintenance budget after banking (restricting) the flow of maintenance work throughout 25/26.

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

Motion No. 3132 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Building Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 3133 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

Patrick Alberts

Sporting application for Son Javonne to compete in the Rugby Union Wide Bay School Sport 2026 State Championship 14-15 boys on 30-3 August 2026 in Townsville.

Resolution

Council approved a $200 sponsorship for Albert to support his participation in the 2026 Rugby Union Wide Bay School Sport State Championships (14-15 Boys), held in Townsville from 30 July to 3 August 2026.

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

Motion No. 3134 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Jeanette Brown

Walls that Speak: The Story of Cherbourg Hall by Jeanette Brown
Council has already addressed this matter

Wondai Regional Art Gallery

Seeking Sponsorship for the South Burnett Regional Council Acquisitive Art Competition in Ocotober.

Resolution

Council approved sponsorship of $500 for the South Burnett Regional Council Acquisitive Art Competition.

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

Motion No. 3135 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Dept Women ATSI Partnerships & Multiculturalism

Advice – Ms Catherine Rollo has been appointed as the Acting Director for Remote Indigenous land and Infrastructure program Office (RILIPO)

Qld Fire Dept

Wide Bay Burnett District Bushfire Management Committee Minutes – 30/04/2026

Mick Jordan

A request was made to hold a geocaching gathering at the dam lookout, with approximately 60 attendees, to showcase the area's scenery and local attractions. The requester also enquired about the possibility of the Youth Shop being open during the visit to allow participants to learn more about and support the local community, and requested an opportunity to discuss these ideas.

Resolution

Council approved the request to hold a geocaching gathering at the Bert Button Lookout over the October long weekend (3-5 October).

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

Motion No. 3136 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

TCICA – Torres Cape Indigenous Council Alliance Inc.

Feedback on the Indigenous Leaders Forum and Queensland Indigenous Council Leaders Accord

Dept Local Govt Water & Volunteers

Advice – National Census of Population and Housing will be conducted on Tuesday 11 August 2026.

Minister State Dev Infrastructure Planning & Industrial Relations

The Minister advised that he has decided to publicly notify the Draft Wide Bay Burnett (WBB) Regional Plan and Infrastructure plan 2026 (draft regional plan), in accordance with the Planning Act 2016.

The draft regional plan is open for public consultation between 31 July to 14 September 2026. A copy of the draft regional plan can be accessed via the link https://www.planning.qld.gov.au/draft-wbb-regional-plan-2026.pdf and on the website at: www.planning.qld.gov.au/wide-bay-burnett-regional-plan. A copy of the Queensland Government Gazette Notice (as required under the Planning Act) is also enclosed for your information.

Michael Hogan

Local Govt Playbook – project brief for the Local Government Playbook – Every Child Thriving Project.

Goomeri Show Society - NYE Rodeo

Seeking sponsorship for the 2026 New Years Eve Goomeri Rodeo

Council agreed to support the Goomeri NYE Rodeo - $500

Resolution

Council approved sponsorship of $500 for the 2026 Goomeri New Years Eve Rodeo.

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

Motion No. 3137 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Electoral Commission Qld

Invitation to CEO Zala to return as a member of the 2028 Local Government Election Advisory Committee.

Council agrees that CEO Zala should be a member of the 2028 Local Government Election Advisory Committee if he wishes to do so.

SB Child Protection

Invitation – Networking & Celebration – Child Protection Week (10 September 2026)

Gavin Crawford

Information – HPAI Bird Flu

Indigenous Energy Australia

Seeking Council approval to apply for First Nations Clean Energy Program Grant.

Resolution

Council approved that Indigenous Energy Australia apply for the First Nations Clean Energy Program Grant

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

Motion No. 3138 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously
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Mayor Bruce Simpson declared interest and left meeting
Leighton Costello (Cherbourg Men's Space) is Mayor Bruce Simpson nephew

Leighton Costello - Cherbourg Men's Safe Space: Community -Led Healing and Connection

Leighton sought endorsement for a community-led Cherbourg Men's Safe Space involving Council, local men, Elders and community partners. Noting that several men's groups already operate in Cherbourg, Council supported the re-establishment of a men's group in principle.

Resolution

1. ***Council resolved to support the re-establishment of the men's group in principle.***
2. ***Council invites Leighton to attend its next floater meeting to discuss the men's group further.***

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

Motion No. 3139 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Mayor Bruce Simpson entered meeting

2.12pm Meeting Closed