Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

Minutes – Council Meeting 21 & 22 January 2026

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 21 & 22 JANUARY 2026

Attendance

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

Apologies - Mayor Bruce Simpson on Mayoral Leave

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

Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge chaired the meeting

9.30 am ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge opened the meeting***
Welcome to Country – Cr Daniel Weazel
Sorry Business – 1 Minute Silence

Councillor Obligations

Prescribed Conflict of Interest

Nil

Declarable Conflict of Interest

Nil

Register of Interest

Nil

Mayoral Leave

Mayor Bruce Simpson is on Mayoral Leave from 19-25 January 2026.

Resolution

That Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council acknowledges Mayor Bruce Simpson's Mayoral Leave from 19-25 January 2026.

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

Motion No. 2930 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Minute Approval

Council resolves that the minutes of the council meeting held on 17 & 18 December 2025 be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2931 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

MAYORS REPORT

Mayors Report was presented

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Mayor's Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2932 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

The CEO presented his report

CEO welcomed Council to 2026 and Presented the Key Priorities for Cherbourg Council and Community for the next 5 years. They are

1. *Health Services and improved health outcomes*
2. *Water, Sewerage, and waste management*
3. *3 Community safety and law enforcement*
4. *Economic development and local employment*
5. *Education and training pathways*
6. *Cultural tourism and Community identity*
7. *Environmental sustainability*
8. *Youth engagement and wellbeing*
9. *Advocacy and strategic partnerships*

Resolution

That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report welcoming Council to 2026 and reaffirming Council's Key Priorities.

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

Motion No. 2933 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Closing the Gap

The Closing the Gap Priorities Fund is a Queensland Government initiative designed to support critical capital infrastructure projects in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Fund focuses on delivering tangible, long-term improvements that contribute directly to achieving Closing the Gap outcomes and targets.

The Fund supports infrastructure investment across the following priority areas:

Health: Improving drinking water standards and health-related infrastructure

Education: Improving and/or increasing opportunities for education and learning within the community

Housing: Increasing the supply, quality, and functionality of housing Employment: Creating increased opportunities for local employment

Living Standards: Supporting infrastructure that improves overall community liveability and wellbeing

Under the Closing the Gap Priorities Fund, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council has nominated 2 priority capital infrastructure projects for consideration

1. *Cherbourg Sports Complex Upgrade*

This project involves the upgrade of the Cherbourg Sports Complex to improve community sporting and recreational infrastructure. The project will support improved health AND Wellbeing outcomes, increase community participation, and create opportunities for local employment, during construction. The upgrade aligns with Closing the Gap priorities relating to health, education, employment, and improved living standards.

2. *Cherbourg Landfill Upgrade – Leachate Dam*

This project focuses on upgrading landfill and associated waste management infrastructure at the Leachate Dam site to improve environmental management, community safety, and long-term sustainability. The project will contribute to improved living standards, environmental outcomes, and public health, while aligning with Council's waste management responsibilities and Closing the Gap objectives.

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Notes the information provided regarding the Closing the Gap Priority Fund and***

2. ***Endorses the nomination of the following two priority capital infrastructure projects for submission under the Closing the Gap Priorities Fund***

   - ***Cherbourg Sports Complex Upgrade***
   - ***Cherbourg Landfill Upgrade – Leachate Dam, and***

3. ***Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to progress discussions with the Queensland Government and undertake all necessary actions to advance these projects, including finalizing project scopes, costings, and required documentation***

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

Motion No. 2934 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

EMU Training

The LGAQ has commenced planning for the 2026 EMU program, which will be delivered between March and June 2026. The EMU program provides elected members with important updates on governance, legislation, sector priorities, and emerging issues affecting local government. Traditionally, LGAQ has delivered individual EMU sessions for First Nations councils to ensure content is tailored and highly relevant to their unique governance, community, and policy contexts.

LGAQ is proposing to deliver some EMU Sessions as group cluster session, bringing together councils aligned by Policy Executive districts and/or Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) groupings

Options for EMU Sessions

1. *Individual EMU Session in Cherbourg*
2. *Grouped EMU Session with Gympie Regional Council at Goomeri*

Council selected the Individual EMU Session in Cherbourg as content is tailored to First Nation Council governance and priorities

Resolution

That Council:

1. ***Notes the information provided regarding the 2026 Elected Members Update (EMU) program; and***

2. ***Determines Council's preferred option for EMU delivery, being either, an individual Session delivered in Cherbourg; or grouped EMU session with Gympie Regional Council at Goomeri; and***

3. ***Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to formally advise the LGAQ of Council's Decision.***

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

Motion No. 2935 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Elders

The Elders Advisory Group has been supported through DATSIP funding, which has enabled the facilitation of formal meetings, coordination support, and associated costs. This funding arrangement is scheduled to cease in December 2025, and no ongoing funding has been confirmed beyond this date. As a result, the continuation of the current Elders Advisory Group meeting structure is not financially sustainable under existing Council resources.

As per discussion with Mayor Simpson and councillors, it is recommended that Council: Cease the current Elders Advisory Group arrangements; and

Implement an Elders Morning Tea as the primary engagement mechanism, with invitations extended to all Elders from the Cherbourg community. The Council recommendation is based on the need for:

1. *A more inclusive approach to Elders engagement*
2. *A culturally appropriate and informal setting for discussion*
3. *A sustainable model that can be delivered within Council's existing resources following the cessation of DATSIP funding*

Resolution

That Council

1. ***Notes the cessation of Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) funding for the Elders Advisory Group in December 2025.***

2. ***Endorses the cessation of the existing Elders Advisory Group meeting process following the conclusion of DATSIP funding.***

3. ***Approves the implementation of an Elders Morning Tea, inviting all Elders from the Cherbourg community, to be held at 8.30am on Council floater meeting days.***

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

Motion No. 2936 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

<u>Report Approval</u>

Council resolves that the CEO's Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2937 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

CORPORTATE SERVICES REPORT

The Corporate Services Manager presented his Report.

Resolution

Council resolves that the Corporate Services Report be adopted.

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

Motion No.2938 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Report was presented by the Finance Manager

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Finance Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2939 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 and Community Development Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2940 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Community Services Manager presented her report.

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Community Services Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2941 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

OPERATON REPORT

Operation Manager present his Report

Playground Equipment Removal

The Old Playground Equipment at Vincent Law Way (next to Jumbunna) is old, not being used and is unsafe. Operations Manager requests that the equipment be removed.

Resolution

Council approves the removal of the Old Playground Equipment at Vincent Law Way (next to Jumbunna) as it is old, unsafe and is not being used.

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

Motion No. 2942 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Report Approval

Council resolves that the Operations Manager's Report be adopted.

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

Motion No. 2943 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

12.23pm ***Meeting adjourned for lunch***
12.48pm ***Meeting recommenced***

12.48pm ***Financial Statement Presentation by Council Advisor Brett De Chastel***

1.30pm ***Meeting Closed***

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 22 JANUARY 2026

Attendance

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

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

9.33 am ***Deputy Mayor Gordon Wragge Opened Meeting***
Welcome to Country – Cr Daniel Weazel
Sorry Business – 1 Minute Silence

CORRESPONDENCE

Esme Douglas

Seeking permission to hold the Barambah Revival Gospel in Cherbourg at the Welfare Hall on 1-3 May 2026.

Approved

Resolution

That Council approves the Barambah Revival Gospel's be held at the Cherbourg Welfare Hall on 1-3 May 2026.

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

Motion No. 2944 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

WBBROC

Minutes of the WBBROC Annual Meeting Held on 20 November 2025

Noted

Qld Govt

Determination of maximum remuneration

Advising that the Local Government Remuneration Commission has finalised its determination of the maximum remuneration amounts for mayors, deputy mayors and councillors for these categories, and will apply form 1 July 2026.

Resolution

That Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council accepts the Local Government Remuneration Commission's determination of the maximum remuneration amounts for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors.

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

Motion No. 2945 Carried
For Vote: Council Voted Unanimously

Dept Local Govt Water & Volunteers

Advice – Local Government Legislation (Empowering Councils) Amendment Regulation 2025 (Amendment Regulation) was made by the Governor in Council on 11 December 2025 and notified on the Qld Legislation website on 12 December 2025.

Dept State Development Infrastructure & Planning

Advice – Planning (Battery Storage Facilities) and other legislation amendment Regulations(Amendment Regulation), which amends the Planning Regulation 2017 (Planning Regulation) too effect on 12 December.

Deadly Ears

Advising that the Deadly Ears Nose & Throat Deadly Ears Program will be visiting Cherbourg on 2 – 6 March 2026.

10.30am TEAMS – Entered - Thomas Docking (Dad's Group)

Thomas made a presentation on Dads Group'- a program supporting fathers during perinatal. The program is designed to support and assist fathers, identifies and addresses the gap. The role of fathers is overlooked. This would be a long term systematic approach Lead by elders/people in the community to impart intergenerational values, acknowledge men's values. One of the outcomes of the program is a better generation of children.

This program has been operating all over Australia including some indigenous communities, Thomas would like to introduce the program to Cherbourg.

Council supports this initiative and wants advance the program in Cherbourg.

10.58am TEAMS – Left - Thomas Docking

11.00am Entered Meeting - TAFE Centre of Excellence
Sean O'Sullivan
Tabitha Bleys
Tony Kruger
Deanne

The TAFE Team is promoting the Clean Energy Batteries, a national network focused on partnerships, products, activities, research, and training to support Australia's clean energy batteries sector.

There is also a First Nations Renewable Energy and Battery Training Pathway, Community Engagement & Education through schools, Making Problem Battery Collection Simple (Cherbourg & South Burnett).

11.35am Left Meeting- TAFE Centre of Excellence
Sean O'Sullivan
Tabitha Bleys
Tony Kruger
Deanne

11.35am Meeting Closed