



Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council

September Council Meeting Minutes

23 September 2025, 10:04AM – 11:56AM

Kowanyama Chambers and Cairns Boardroom

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Present

Kowanyama Chambers

Cr. Territa Dick (Mayor)
Cr. Teddy Bernard (Deputy Mayor)
Kevin Bell – Chief Executive Officer
Leah Chambers – Executive Manager Community Services & Cultural Heritage
Dan Dixon – Executive Manager Roads, Infrastructure and Essential Services

Cairns Boardroom

Cr Richard Stafford
Joe Cristaldi – Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services
Chris McLaughlin – A/Manager Governance

1. Opening/Welcome

Meeting commenced at 10:04AM.

Mayor welcomed the Councillors and Executive Team to the September Council Meeting, paid respects to Traditional Owners and Elders (past and present).

2. Conflicts of Interest

Councillors advise that there is no Conflict of Interest to be declared.

Apologies

RESOLUTION: That Council accepts the apologies of Cr. Coralie Lawrence

Moved: Cr. Territa Dick
Seconded: Cr. Richard Stafford

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: That Council accepts the apologies of Cr. Charmaine Lawrence

Moved: Cr. Territa Dick
Seconded: Cr. Richard Stafford

CARRIED

3. Previous Minutes / Action Items

a. Previous Minutes

RESOLUTION: Minutes (August Ordinary Council Meeting)

As there were insufficient Councillors present at the September meeting who had also attended the August meeting, the matter was left laying on the table for ratification at the October meeting.

Matter left laying on the table.

b. Action Items

Action Items register was noted and tabled.

Action: CEO to arrange Councillor (EMU) training for Councillors who missed the last session earlier in 2025.

Action: A/MG to provide a copy of the Draft Community Safety Plan to Cr Richard Stafford for review and comment.

4. Reports

4.1. Mayor, Deputy, and Councillor Updates

Mayor

- NAIDOC celebration (incl NAIDOC Ball)

Deputy Mayor

- Attended Blue Carbon Workshop

Cr Richard Stafford

- Met with local roadworks contractors – very happy with contracts.
- Visited the Men's Shed. Significant capital works required.

Action: CEO to action capital works at the Men's Shed to make it fit for purpose

4.2. Chief Executive Officer

4.2.1. Information Report

Kevin Bell (Chief Executive Officer) presented the CEO report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

4.2.2. Agenda Reports

a. Housing Plan Implementation

RESOLUTION: That Council resolved to:

1. Endorse the Kowanyama Housing Plan Implementation Plan as presented.
2. Endorse the Housing Plan Governance Working Group Terms of Reference as presented.

Moved: Cr. Territa Dick

Seconded: Cr. Teddy Bernard

CARRIED

4.3. Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services

4.3.1. Information Report

a. Governance Information Report

Chris McLaughlin (A/Manager Governance) presented the Governance report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

Cr Stafford noted, with respect to enterprise projects pertaining to traditional lands, that royalties should be offered to traditional owners.

b. HR Information Report

Joe Cristaldi (Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services) presented the HR report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

Cr Stafford asked why Council has not been able to attract capital funding for the Men's Shed? CEO responded that other organisations were applying for the same funding streams locally, and Council had been missing out.

c. Finance Information Report

Joe Cristaldi (Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services) presented the Finance report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

4.4. Executive Manager Roads, Infrastructure and Essential Services

4.4.1. Information Report

Dan Dixon, (EMRIES) presented EMRIES Information report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

Action: EMRIES to include in future Information Reports, Social Housing Repair status (days outstanding etc).

4.4.2. Agenda Reports

a. Airport Café/ Kiosk

RESOLUTION: Councillors present agreed that it would be preferable to have a full Council consider this proposal. Deferred to October meeting.

Matter left laying on the table.

4.5. Executive Manager Community Services and Cultural Heritage

4.5.1. Information Report

Leah Chambers, (Executive Manager, Community Services and Cultural Heritage) presented EMCSCH Information report to Council. Information report was noted by Council.

Action: EMCSCH to investigate whether Council is able to sell Australia Post Shop products out of the Post Office like many regional stores.

5. Closed Business – Legal Matters General

RESOLUTION: That pursuant to section s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld), Council resolve to close the meeting to discuss legal advice.

Moved: Cr. Teddy Bernard
Seconded: Cr Richard Stafford

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: That Council resolve to reopen the meeting.

Moved: Cr. Teddy Bernard
Seconded: Cr Richard Stafford

CARRIED

No resolutions required for closed business session.

6. Other Business

Cr Stafford raised two (2) separate matters of general business without notice each advancing allegations of code of conduct breaches by Cr Territa Dick (Mayor). A/MG cautioned both Cr Stafford and Cr. Territa Dick (no immunity/ legal privilege in recorded open Council meetings). Cr Territa Dick noted her exception to the allegations. Cr Stafford elected not to pursue the matters further in open recorded session.

Meeting closed: 11:56am