

**MINUTES OF MORNINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CORNER DJINKIYA & LARDIL STREET GUNUNA  
ON WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 9:00 AM**

**1 OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by Mayor Richard Sewter at 9:03am.

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

I would like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the Lardil people of Mornington Island and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We would also like to acknowledge the Kaiadilt, Yangkaal, Waanyi, Gangalidda and Garrawa people who share our homelands.

**3 PRESENT**

Mayor Richard Sewter, Deputy Mayor Robert Thompson, Councillor Jane Ah Kit, Councillor Farrah Linden and Councillor Renee Wilson.

Gary Uhlmann (Chief Executive Officer) and Skye Price (Director Corporate and Community),

**4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - COUNCILLORS AND STAFF**

Mayor Richard Sewter and Councillor Jane Ah Kit declared a conflict of interest for Item 16.3 Community grant application - Sarah Isaacs and Thandabi Community Club. They both abstained from discussion and voting.

**6 CONDOLENCES AND MEMORIALS**

A minute's silence was observed for loved ones.

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### RESOLUTION 2025/131

Moved: Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

Seconded Councillor Renee Wilson

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting - 27 August 2025 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

## 8 DEPUTATIONS

10:00am - Hollie Wakefield, Principal Project Officer and Carrie Goldsmith, Program Extension Officer, Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation  
Water, waste and sewage presentation

11:00am – Jika Kangka Gununamanda Limited, Melanie Ah Kit and other representatives

## 9 ACTION SCHEDULE

Resolutions list tabled in the meeting.

Mayor Sewter adjourned the meeting 9:55am

Mayor Sewter reconvened the meeting 10:05am

## 10 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### RESOLUTION 2025/132

Moved: Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

Seconded Mayor Richard Sewter

That Councillors receive and note the Mayor and Councillors' verbal reports for MONTH 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

### Mayor Richard Sewter

*TCICA meeting*

- Path to treaty not working
- Freight subsidy not working
- Accord document with LGAQ being finalised
- Alf Lacey and Wayne Butcher Mayor's representatives for this

*Premier's visit*

- Impressed by what he saw
- Painting in the library to be purchased by the Premier's Office for the Queensland Gallery
- Oval refurbishment
- Splash park funding
- Carriage limit and liquor licensing
- Concerns over CLC/ GRAC model

*GREAT board meeting*

- They suggested that they will do a roadshow to Mornington Island in the future. In the meantime, if there are any business ideas or aspirations in the community they would like to be informed about them.

**Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson**

Deputy Mayor Thompson has been unwell. CEO Gary Uhlmann advised that a concreting works for a new causeway has been completed and that Deputy Mayor Thompson is undertaking a roads tour with Ben Pittiglio, Thursday 25 September 2025.

**Cr Farrah Linden**

Sorry Business to be reviewed including liaison with the Coroner's Court, as well as supports for the community and record keeping processes.

54 Reasons has had a month off from financial services support. As such, it has been challenging for community members to gain support for superannuation and other personal finance matters.

Local History/ multi-media events are being investigated in conjunction with grants opportunities at present.

Expansion of the cemetery needs to be formalised as soon as possible because plot sites are being filled.

**Cr Jane Ah Kit**

Attended rugby league clusters and Mornington Island Festival.

Liaison has also occurred with Queensland Police Service and education service providers.

**Cr Renee Wilson**

Reported a very successful festival event, with nineteen special guests from other communities, great dance performances and other acts too. Very appreciative towards Council and other sponsors. Expressed enthusiasm about GRAC introducing and upholding official rules related to Festival Grounds maintenance.

**11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT  
RESOLUTION 2025/133**

Moved: Councillor Farrah Linden  
Seconded Councillor Jane Ah Kit

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's report for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

Mayor Sewter adjourned the meeting 12:45pm

Mayor Sewter reconvened the meeting 1:05pm

**12 FINANCE****RESOLUTION 2025/134**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson  
Seconded Councillor Farrah Linden

That Council receive and note the Financial Report for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**RESOLUTION 2025/135**

Moved: Councillor Farrah Linden  
Seconded Mayor Richard Sewter

That Council receive and note the Queensland Audit Office 2024 Final Management Report and 2024 Closing Report.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**RESOLUTION 2025/136**

Moved: Councillor Jane Ah Kit  
Seconded Councillor Farrah Linden

That Council endorse Chief Financial Officer, Ms Joanne Gowans be added as an authorised signatory for all Mornington Shire Council Westpac Bank and Queensland Treasury Commission accounts from September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**13 HUMAN RESOURCES**

**RESOLUTION 2025/137**

Moved: Councillor Farrah Linden

Seconded Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

That Council receive and note the Human Resources report for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**14 HOUSING AND FACILITIES**

Nil

**15 ENGINEERING**

**RESOLUTION 2025/138**

Moved: Councillor Renee Wilson

Seconded Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

That Council receive and note the Engineering report for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**16 PLANNING AND COMMUNITIES**

**RESOLUTION 2025/139**

Moved: Councillor Farrah Linden

Seconded Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

That Council receive and note the Accommodation and Hospitality report for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

**RESOLUTION 2025/140**

Moved: Councillor Jane Ah Kit

Seconded Mayor Richard Sewter

That Council receive and note the report related to Queensland Government Department of Housing Tenancy Services for September 2025.

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

Mayor Richard Sewter departed the meeting 1:45pm – Declared conflict of interest Item 16.3

Councillor Jane Ah Kit departed the meeting 1:45pm – Declared conflict of interest Item 16.3

Deputy Mayor Robert “Bobby” Thompson Chaired the meeting during Mayor Richard Sewter’s absence

**RESOLUTION 2025/141**

Moved: Councillor Renee Wilson

Seconded Councillor Farrah Linden

That Council support the community grant application to the value of two thousand two hundred dollars (\$2,200) and request that Sarah Isaacs attend a Council deputation after the 13 October 2025 event, providing photos and feedback about the outcome of the Master by research/ PhD research proposal and Thandabi Community Club participation.

**CARRIED 3 / 0**

Mayor Richard Sewter returned to the returned to the meeting 3:05pm

**RESOLUTION 2025/142**

Moved: Councillor Farrah Linden  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson

That Council:

- A) Endorse installation of modular buildings at Kulthangarra Street, adjacent to the existing residential aged care facility, comprising up to twenty-four (24) studio apartments, two stories in height, subject to conventional town planning and development application requirements
- B) Extend delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all liaison with Selectability to ensure that the residential modular housing project can be completed in an expedient manner, so as not to compromise ongoing residential aged care service provision on Mornington Island.

**CARRIED 4 / 0**

**RESOLUTION 2025/143**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson  
Seconded Councillor Farrah Linden

That Council endorse the Mirndiyan Gununa Aboriginal Corporation board proposal to formally name the Mornington Island Indigenous Knowledge Centre, "Goobalathaldin Knowledge Centre" as a tribute to the late Dick Roughsey, as well as his contributions towards art, culture and literacy.

**CARRIED 4 / 0**

**RESOLUTION 2025/144**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Robert "Bobby" Thompson  
Seconded Councillor Renee Wilson

- A) That That Council provide support for the 2025 New Year's Eve fireworks display to the value of thirty-one thousand, eight hundred and eighty dollars (\$31,880) and future fireworks events costs will be reviewed as a part of the 2026/27 budget process.

OR

- B) Council resolves not to support the expenditure for New Year's Eve fireworks displays.

**CARRIED 4 / 0**

Councillor Jane Ah Kit returned to the meeting 3:48pm

## 17 GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Jane Ah Kit raised that protocols should exist for staff communication with Councillors. It was agreed that as a part of Human Resources induction processes, all new staff will be introduced to Elected Members.

Information related to Elected Members will also be included on Human Resources staff induction handouts.

It was also agreed that before community meetings, Elected Members will have a collective briefing session.

Advocacy needs to occur for funding related to mortuary improvements at the hospital.

## 18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

20.1 Tender outcome report – MSC-VP468374 – Motel expansion comprising four units

### RESOLUTION 2025/145

Moved: Councillor Jane Ah Kit

Seconded Councillor Farrah Linden

That Council approve the tender of Bay Investments Qld Pty Ltd trading as OLY HOMES (ABN 92103649814) in tender reference MSC-VP468374 (Motel expansion four (4) units, with an option of five (5)), for the lump sum price of \$1,455,023 (excluding GST), and delegate the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all things necessary to sign contracts, pay invoices as and when due, and approve variations (up to and including available grant funding totals for the project).

**CARRIED 5 / 0**

## 19 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 October 2025.

## 20 CLOSURE

Mayor Sewter closed the meeting at 4:09pm.

Gary Uhlmann  
Chief Executive Officer

Minutes Confirmed:

Mayor .....

Date:

Gary Uhlmann  
Chief Executive Officer

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES