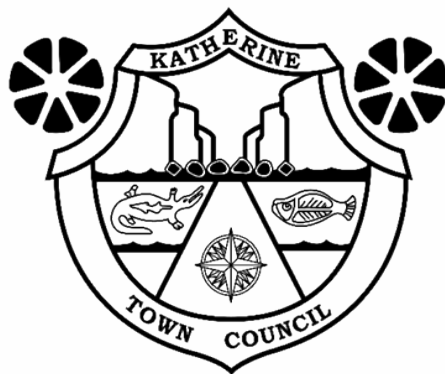




MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 23 September 2025**

Roper Gulf Regional Council, Wilton Training Room
2 Crawford Street, Katherine NT 0850

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Holden declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 September 2025 open at 12:01 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Joanna Holden
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts
- Councillor Mel Doyle
- Councillor Kathy Glass
- Councillor Anjali Palmer

OFFICERS

- Casey Anderson - Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Martene Johnson - Executive Assistant - Minute Taker
- Brett Kimpton – Manager Environment and Municipal Services
- Matt Arnott - Manager Project Portfolio
- Rhett English - Manager Community Relations
- Jo Brosnan - Manager Strategic Communications
- Shez Clemow - Rates and Regulatory Affairs Coordinator

- Staff - 1

PUBLIC - 10

4.2 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

Cr Tapp Coutts advised she will be on leave from 02 October 2025 until 16 October 2025.

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

Nil conflicts declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 26 AUGUST 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 August 2025 as a true and accurate record.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-204

Moved: Councillor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 August 2025 as a true and accurate record with the amendment in Item 18 General Business that Councillor Bower provided an apology not a formal letter.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE AUGUST 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-205

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion - A meeting will be organised in the coming weeks with the Northern Territory Government, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure regarding the CBD speed changes.

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR CLARK ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-206

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for Mayor Clark August 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-207

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Communique - ALGA Board meeting - 23 Jun 2025 - ID239376 [**10.1.1** - 1 page]
 2. Report - LGANT Submission Multicultural Strategy - 25 Aug 2025 - I D 239381 [**10.1.2** - 5 pages]
 3. Communique - LGANT Board meeting - 27 Aug 2025 - ID239376 [**10.1.3** - 2 pages]
 4. Letter Dept Foreign Affairs - Foreign Arrangements Scheme Review - 2 Sep 2025 - ID239225 [**10.1.4** - 1 page]
 5. Letter - NT Remuneration Tribunal - 2026 LGC and LA Inquiries - 9 Sep 2025 - ID239223 [**10.1.5** - 1 page]
 6. report-determination-1-of-2025-allowances-for-members-local-government-councils [**10.1.6** - 10 pages]
 7. Letter - NTEC - 2025 Local Government Election results - 9 Sept 2025 - ID239172 [**10.1.7** - 3 pages]

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

11 PETITIONS

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 September 2025

Question	Response
Is live streaming in discussion, if it is available?	It will be discussed with council staff regarding the policy and implementation.

Speed changes, it feels like we have been strung along. What has happened and what is the way forward?	Regarding the roads speed limit, a meeting will be organised in the coming weeks to understand the situation.
Allowances for Katherine elected members, is it based on part time or full time hours?	The allowances are fixed amounts and do not differentiate between part-time and full-time status.
Pg 102 - Ordinary Council meeting - Late reports Pg 103 - Ordinary meetings must be closed for confidential and special meeting, and the reason for a meeting to be closed, needs to be explained as it hasn't happened before.	Late reports are brought in on exceptional circumstances, if the reporting date is missed then they are added as late reports and are available when completed. Special meetings are held to address urgent issues. Confidential meetings are for tabling of items that are not for public discussion and meet the confidential reasons of the regulations.
14.5 - Would like an update of the Centenary committee, what is council going to do to fill the empty positions?	We will be discussing the vacancies today and are looking to fill the positions and supporting the committee.
What are the changes you would like to see implemented for the public meetings? Separate meeting for public questions, move the meeting to 6:00 pm?	Great suggestions and will be discussed during the council meeting later.
It would be appreciated if the public question time could be extended to more than just the agenda as it currently is, one of the things pushed for during the election was accountability. What about time before the meeting for question time?	We agree with you and will discuss the matter when it comes up later in the meeting.
When will the citizenship ceremony take place? Currently, more than 30% of approved applicants are waiting, and it has been 7 months, that is a long time.	Will speak to the staff about the procedure to follow, and we will set a date.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 CASTING VOTE POLICY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-203

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council approve the Casting Vote Policy version 2.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.2 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MEMBER

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**Moved:** Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council approve the appointment of Deputy Mayor for the term of xxxx.
2. That Council conduct the appointment of Deputy Mayor voting process by xxxx.
3. That Council endorse the Mayor to call for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.
4. That council appoint Councillor xxxx as Deputy Mayor for the period effective 24 September 2025 ending xx xx xxxx.

Discussion - The election for Deputy Mayor was conducted by an anonymous ballot to preserve confidentiality and impartiality.

The Council resolved that the Deputy Mayor be appointed for a two-year term, after which the role may be offered to any Councillor wishing to serve in six-month increments.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-208**Moved:** Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconder:** Councillor Palmer

1. That Council approve the appointment of Deputy Mayor for the term of 2 years.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-209**Moved:** Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor King

2. That Council conduct the appointment of Deputy Mayor voting process by ballot paper.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-210**Moved:** Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

3. That Council endorse the Mayor to call for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor:

- Councillor Palmer nominated Councillor Tapp Coutts.
- Councillor King nominated Councillor Doyle.

Each nominee was invited to speak to their nomination:

- Councillor Tapp Coutts highlighted her experience in Council and on various boards. She expressed her desire to provide leadership and serve as a mentor to fellow Councillors.
- Councillor Doyle reflected on her campaign, stating she would have been happy serving alongside either the Mayor or as a Councillor. She noted her extensive government experience, broad community network, and enthusiasm for taking on new challenges.

A secret ballot was undertaken and resulting in:

Councillor Tapp Coutts: 3 votes

Councillor Doyle: 4 votes

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-211

Moved: Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

4. That council appoint Councillor Doyle as Deputy Mayor for the period effective 24 September 2025 ending 28 September 2027.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.3 SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR THE TERM OF COUNCIL 2025 - 2029

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council approve the schedule of Ordinary Meeting of Council dates for the term of Council as follows:

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
January		Tuesday, 27	Wednesday, 27	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 23
February		Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 27
March		Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27
April		Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Wednesday, 28	Tuesday, 24
May		Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22
June		Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 26
July		Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24
August		Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 28

September		Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 25
October	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 24	
November	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 28	
December	Tuesday, 9	Tuesday, 8	Tuesday, 14	Tuesday, 12	

2. That Council approve the Ordinary Meeting of Council time to be held at 12.00pm.

Discussion was held regarding the midday start time of Ordinary Meeting of Council.

It was noted that many community members are unable to attend meetings during the day. A later start time, such as 5:00 pm or later, would allow for greater public participation.

Community feedback has requested reconsideration of meeting times. However, several factors were discussed:

- Cost implications to Council due to meetings being held outside regular working hours.
- Staff availability and the impact on operations.
- Variable community attendance, which often depends on agenda items.
- One Councillor noted they begin work at 6:00 am, and evening meetings would be a significant burden.
- Council are yet to discuss an engagement plan which will consider how the elected members engage with the community.

Proposal:

- A trial was suggested to assess the impact of a later meeting time.
- It was proposed that the public question session begin at 5:30 pm that would give the opportunity for community members to raise any topic, followed by the Ordinary Meeting starting at 6:00 pm.

Additional Suggestion:

- A "Cuppa with a Councillor" initiative proposed to provide informal opportunities for community members to engage with Councillors outside of a formal meeting.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-212

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

1. That Council approve the schedule of Ordinary Meeting of Council dates for the term of Council as follows:

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
January		Tuesday, 27	Wednesday, 27	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 23
February		Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 27
March		Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27
April		Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Wednesday, 28	Tuesday, 24
May		Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22
June		Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 26

July		Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24
August		Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 28
September		Tuesday, 22	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 25
October	Tuesday, 28	Tuesday, 27	Tuesday, 26	Tuesday, 24	
November	Tuesday, 25	Tuesday, 24	Tuesday, 23	Tuesday, 28	
December	Tuesday, 9	Tuesday, 8	Tuesday, 14	Tuesday, 12	

2. That Council meet the 4th Tuesday of the month commencing at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council on 28th October 2025, with a public question session at 5:30 pm and the Ordinary Meeting of Council to start at 6:00 pm as a trial until 24 March 2026.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.4 COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND ASSESSMENT PANEL APPOINTMENTS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-213

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council appoints Councillor King to the Administrative Review Committee for the period to 31 September 2026.
2. That Council appoints Councillor Whitehouse and Mayor Holden to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 31 September 2026 and appoints Councillor Palmer as the alternate member to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 31 September 2026.
3. That Council appoints Councillor Whitehouse and Councillor King to the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 31 September 2026, and Councillor King be the Chair of the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 31 September 2026.
4. Council appoints Councillor King and Councillor Palmer to the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 31 September 2026, and Councillor Palmer be the Chair of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 31 September 2026.
5. That Council appoints Councillor Doyle, Councillor Whitehouse and Councillor Tapp Coutts to the Community Grants Assessment Panel.
6. That Council appoints Councillor Palmer, Councillor Doyle and Councillor Whitehouse to the Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel.
7. That Council appoints Mayor Holden, Councillor Tapp Coutts and Councillor Whitehouse to the International Day of People with Disability Awards Assessment Panel.
8. That Council appoints Mayor Holden, Councillor Doyle and Councillor Whitehouse to the Christmas Light Judging Assessment Panel.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.5 CENTENARY OF KATHERINE 2026 - MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-214**Moved:** Councillor Glass; **Seconded:** Councillor King

1. That Council notes the resignations of Committee members Lauren Reed, Clare Armitage, and Trent de With.
2. The Council approves the current Community Relations Manager Rhett English to replace Melissa Doyle as the Katherine Town Council representative on the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee in an advisory capacity only, as per the terms of reference. Noted by Centenary of Katherine Advisory Committee in CKAC – 2025 – 12
3. That Council appoints the new Mayor of Katherine from the 2025 Local Government Election to replace Mayor Elisabeth Clark as the Chair of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee.
4. That Council appoints the new Deputy Mayor of Katherine from the 2025 Local Government Election to replace Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn as the alternate Chair of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee.
5. That Council appoints Councillor Tapp Coutts from the 2025 Local Government election to the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee to represent Katherine Town Council.
6. That Council approves the relevant updates to the Terms of Reference and the Membership Register.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion: Councillor Tapp Coutts noted that she has been a member of the committee since its inception. She expressed concerns that having three Elected Members on the committee may be excessive and suggested that the structure of the committee requires an overhaul. This matter will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Councillor Doyle expressed interest in joining the committee.

14.6 EXTERNAL COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**COUNCIL RESOLUTION****Moved:** Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

1. That Council approve the nominations to the Katherine Division of the Development Consent Authority (DCA) of:
 - a. xxxx
 - b. xxxx
 - c. xxxx
 - d. xxxx
2. That Council approve the nomination of xxxx to the Local Government Association of the Northern

Territory (LGANT) for the Board of the NT Grants Commission.

Discussion - Council has sought and been granted an extension of time until the next Council meeting for nominations to the Katherine Division of Development and Consent Authority. It was acknowledged that this is a key role, and membership does not need to be limited to Council members. The inclusion of subject matter experts was suggested as a valuable consideration.

Recommendation that Council defer the approval of nominations of the Katherine Division of Development and Consent Authority until the Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 October 2025.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-215

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

1. Recommendation that council defer the approval of nominations of Katherine Division of the Development Consent Authority (DCA) until the ordinary meeting of 28 October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-216

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

2. That Council approve the nomination of Mayor Holden to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) for the Board of the NT Grants Commission.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

14.7 LGANT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-217

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council approve Councillor Palmer and Mayor Holden as the delegates for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Special General Meeting on the 10 October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.8 LGANT GENERAL MEETING AND CALL FOR MOTIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-218

Moved: Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor Doyle

That Council receive and note the request for submission of motions from Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) for the next Annual General Meeting 19 November 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.9 GRANT VARIATION REQUEST - MAJOR GRANT REGIONAL CULTURAL PRECINCT 2024/2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-219

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

Council endorses and approves the Regional Cultural Precinct's request to amend their Major Community Grant 2024/2025 application, allowing the project originally titled *The Katherine Beat* to be delivered as *The Best of the Beat* in November 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.10 PROPOSED NBN TELECOMMUNICATION LEASE - 26 SECOND STREET KATHERINE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-220

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

1. That Council authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to affix the Common Seal and execute a five (5) year lease agreement, with the option for renewal for an additional term of five (5) years, to NBN Co Limited for a designated portion of Lot 73, 28 Second Street, Katherine NT.
2. That Council will be provided with an updated report once the lease agreement with NBN Co Limited for a designated portion of Lot 73, 28 Second Street, Katherine NT is executed.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.11 ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-221

Moved: Councillor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council adopt the Administrative Review Committee Terms of Reference version 2.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.12 MEETING ADMINISTRATION POLICY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-222

Moved: Councillor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council:

- (a) Rescind the Elected Members General Policy and Procedure, and
- (b) Approve the Meeting Administration Policy.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion: Councillors discussed the proposed change in meeting start time, noting that any amendments must comply with the current By-Laws, specifically those outlined on page 98 of the agenda.

Acting CEO advised that the standard response time to customer enquiries is three business days, subject to:

- The type of enquiry
- Whether the matter is confidential
- Its classification as low, high or urgent

Council acknowledged the need to close the loop by ensuring that any procedural changes align with the Customer Service Charter.

Further consideration was requested regarding:

- The impact of meeting time changes on customer service delivery
- Operational costs and staff availability
- The potential need to amend or trial the proposed meeting time change

Council agreed to refer to the Customer Service Charter and review the implications before finalising any amendments.

14.13 LEGAL REPRESENTATION COSTS FOR ELECTED MEMBERS AND COUNCIL EMPLOYEES POLICY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council adopt the Legal Representation Costs for Elected Members and Council Employees Policy.

Discussion: Further consideration of the Legal Representation costs for Elected members and council employees Policy is required. Identifying there was a need for more discussion as it is a complex issue and to lay it on the table until the next Ordinary Meeting of Council on 28 October 2025.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-223

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council lay on the table the Legal Representation Costs for Elected Members and Council Employee Policy to allow Council more time to review.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.14 FINANCE REPORT AUGUST 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-224

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Mayor Holden

That Council endorses the Finance Report for the Month of August 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion: Council noted within the Rates Debtors Report on page 120 of the agenda, some accounts are past 95 days overdue, with a total outstanding amount of \$1.75 million. It was confirmed that this amount includes unpaid rates from previous financial years dating back to 2017/18 from 2024/25.

Council raised concerns regarding:

- The reasons for the outstanding rates
- The strategies in place to recover those funds

The matter was taken on notice, with a request for:

- A breakdown of the outstanding rates
- Details on actions being taken to collect the overdue amounts

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

15.1.1 Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee Meeting - Minutes 9 September 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-225

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Mayor Holden

That Council receive and note the minutes of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 9 September 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion: Councillor Tapp-Coutts reported that the Centenary Grants Committee found the presented report could have been clearer, which led to some confusion regarding the Centenary.

The feedback was noted, with an action to improve the report's readability by ensuring all relevant information is included, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and supporting stakeholder understanding to enable more informed decision-making.

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

17 LATE AGENDA

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Glass inquired about the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) whether it has been implemented and are components in Municipal Plan.

Action: - To provide Council with a briefing on the RAP, advise of budget allocate to implementing the RAP and advise if in-kind support maybe waived for hire fees.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 1:36 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-226

Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the

council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 26 AUGUST 2025

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20.2 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

20.3 TENDER AWARD - T25-05 - SWEEPING OF STREETS

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-229

Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council:

1. Award Tender 25-05 – Sweeping of Streets to *All Cleaning Solutions and Property Services* for the amount of One Hundred and Forty-Five Thousand, and Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$145,578.00) excluding GST.
2. Release the resolution to the public minutes and for notification on the council website.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20.4 TENDER AWARD - T25-06 - AIR-CONDITIONING SERVICES ALL FACILITIES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-230

Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

That Council:

1. Award Tender 25-06 – Air-conditioning Services – All Facilities to *Territory Refrigeration* for the amount of Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty Dollars (\$9,930.00) excluding GST.
2. Release the resolution to the public minutes and for notification on council website.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20.5 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE - TENDER - T25-08 - OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-231

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor King

1. That Council awards the contract for T25-08 Katherine Aquatic Centre operational management to The Young Men's Christian Association of the Northern Territory (trading as YMCA of the NT), valued at \$506,769.00 ex GST per annum with CPI increases, for a term of 3 years. Including Key Performance Indicators and deliverables for events and community engagement is submitted to Council for the next 12 months and on a monthly basis.
2. That council releases the resolution to the public minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20.6 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE - TENDER - T25-10 - MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-232

Moved: Councillor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

1. That Council awards the contract for T25-10 Katherine Aquatic Centre maintenance services to H.D. Enterprises Pty Ltd (trading as HD Pumps), valued at \$126,886.40 ex GST per annum with CPI increases, for a term of 3 years.
2. That council releases the resolution to the public minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20.7 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE UPGRADE - STATUS REPORT

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

20.8 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL CENTENARY GRANTS PROGRAM 25/26

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

20.9 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 25/26

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 2:54 pm.

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Mayor thanked everyone for a great job and congratulations to all elected to Council, it is an honour to be part of the 13th Katherine Town Council term and noting it was great first meeting.

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 September 2025 was declared closed at 2:55 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on the Tuesday 28 October 2025 at 6:00 pm with a public question time on any matter to start at 5:30 pm.