



MINUTES

**Special Meeting of Council
Held on Wednesday 13 May 2026**

Main Office, Conference Room
29 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 Special Meeting of Council - 13 May 2026 open at 12:01 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle - via video conferencing
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse - via video conferencing
- Councillor Anjali Palmer
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts

OFFICERS

- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk

4.2 APOLOGIES

Councillor Kathy Glass was an apology for this meeting.

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

Nil conflicts declared.

6 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 12:03 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

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.

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 LEGAL REPRESENTATION – MANAGEMENT LIABILITY INSURANCE CLAIM

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-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(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-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(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-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part or the Council of Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.



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-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(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.

8.2 LEGAL REPRESENTATION – CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(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> .
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Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(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.

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 12:23 pm.

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Special Meeting of Council - 13 May 2026 was declared closed at 12:24 pm.