



Wentworth

SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

15 APRIL 2026

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 4:00pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Jon Armstrong
Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Greg Evans
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda
Councillor Jody Starick
Councillor Michael Weeding

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Ebony Carter (Business Support Officer)
Jamie-Lee Kelly (Administration Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Council Resolution

That Council grants the Leave of Absence Request from Councillor Weeding for the 29 April to 29 May 2026.

Moved Cr. Weeding, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

NIL

At 04:03 pm Councillor Jody Starick left the Council Chambers.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 March 2026 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 March 2026 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of conducting a Public Forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.04pm

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

Matt Jackson spoke in favour of Council approving the Development Application for consideration of item 9.8

At 04:07 pm Councillor Jody Starick returned to Council Chambers.

Council Resolution

That Council reconvenes into open session. The meeting was reconvened at 4.11pm

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Weeding

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 STATUS REPORT ON PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AS 15 APRIL 2026

File Number: RPT/26/146

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Status Report on previous Council Resolutions provides details of actions that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 15 April 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 15 April 2026.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT APRIL 2026

File Number: RPT/26/139

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for April 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for April 2026.

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT APRIL 2026

File Number: RPT/26/140

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Ebony Carter - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars
2. Meetings
As listed.
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed.
4. Other items of note

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the information contained within the April 2026 report from the General Manager.

Council Resolution

That Council receive and note the information contained within the April 2026 report from the General Manager.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - MARCH 2026

File Number: RPT/26/150

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.1 A well engaged and informed community

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of March 2026 were \$ 893,344.68. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 77.38%. For comparison purposes 74.27% of the levy had been collected at the end of March 2025. Council currently has \$33,792,937.27 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for March 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for March 2026.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - MARCH 2026

File Number: RPT/26/147

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Ned Lamond - Financial Services Coordinator

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community

Summary

As of 31 March 2026, Council had \$30 million invested in term deposits and fixed bonds with \$3,792,937.27 in other cash investments. Council received \$133,790.09 from its investments for the month of March 2026.

In March 2026 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 3.76% and it currently has \$4,240,097.73 of internal restrictions and \$28,473,182.88 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for March 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for March 2026.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURN

File Number: RPT/26/142

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

Council's Code of Conduct Policy requires Councillors and Designated Persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available disclosure of interests return.

A Councillor or Designated Person must make and lodge with the General Manager a Disclosure of Interest Form within 3 months after:

- becoming a Councillor or Designated Person; and
- after 30 June of each year; and
- the Councillor or Designated Person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 of the Policy that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs a) or b).

These returns are required to be lodged with the General Manager and tabled at the next meeting of Council after the return is lodged.

Recommendation

That Council notes the tabling of a Disclosure of Interest Return by Aaron Hawkins, Manager, Business and Corporate Services.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the tabling of a Disclosure of Interest Return by Aaron Hawkins, Manager, Business and Corporate Services.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 HERITAGE AND HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REVISED CHARTER

File Number: RPT/26/145

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

This report seeks Council's consideration of a revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter.

Council approved the inclusion of a Heritage and History Advisory Committee in its Internal Committee Structure by way of a Resolution at a meeting held on 28 September 2022.

Council considered the terms of reference of the new Committee at its ordinary meeting of 15 February 2023 and subsequently adopted a Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter at its meeting of 19 April 2023. The Charter sets out the Committee's objectives, composition, nomination and selection, reporting and administrative arrangements. The Committee acts only in an advisory capacity and has no formal delegations.

The Charter states that 'this charter will be reviewed after 12 months' however a review has not been undertaken.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter.

Motion

That Council adopts the revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter.

Moved Cr. Beaumont, Seconded Cr. Crisp

Amendment

That Council adopts the revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter and that the charter be revised to insert the words 'and History' after the word heritage in line two of page 72 and amend the meeting frequency to a minimum of quarterly on page 73

Moved Cr. Beaumont, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

LOST

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Armstrong, Beaumont, Evans and Weeding.***

Against the Motion: ***Clr.s Crisp, Linklater, Nichols, Rodda and Starick.***

Further Amendment

That Council adopts the revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter and that the charter be revised to insert the words 'and History' after the word heritage in line two of page 72.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That Council adopts the revised Heritage and History Advisory Committee Charter and that the charter be revised to add the words 'and History' after the word heritage in line two of page 72.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Armstrong, Beaumont, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.***

Against the Motion: ***Clr. Nichols.***

9.6 REVIEW - MOBILE FOOD VENDOR POLICY

File Number:	RPT/25/758
Responsible Officer:	Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division:	Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer:	George Kenende - Strategic Planner
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy:	4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The Mobile Food Vendor Policy provides the framework for the operation of a Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle in the Wentworth Shire Local Government Area. The current policy has been in place since 27 May 2022. There have been a number of concerns raised by community members and Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle operators about the current policy, especially in relation to the designated food vendor locations.

In September 2025, the Office of Local Government introduced the Mutual Recognition Scheme across all NSW Local Government Areas. Under the scheme councils are provided new legislative powers to recognise each other's approvals issued under Section 68 Part D1-6 and F7 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Under the Mobile Food Vendor Policy, approval under Section 68 F7 of the *Local Government Act 1993* is required. The scheme is not mandatory, as such Council can choose whether to opt in or not.

Due to the concerns raised by the community and Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle operators and the Mutual Recognition Scheme introduced by the Office of Local Government, the Mobile Food Vendor Policy has been reviewed and updated for community consultation.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorse the Draft Mobile Food Vendor Policy for public exhibition for 28 days including the opt in to the mutual recognition scheme
2. Determine a fee of \$180 for the mutual recognition scheme process.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Endorse the Draft Mobile Food Vendor Policy for public exhibition for 28 days including the opt in to the mutual recognition scheme
2. Determine a fee of \$180 for the mutual recognition scheme process.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Weeding

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 DRAFT BURONGA GOL GOL STRUCTURE PLAN 2026 REVIEW FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

File Number:	RPT/26/161
Responsible Officer:	Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division:	Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer:	George Kenende - Strategic Planner
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy:	4.1 A well engaged and informed community

Summary

Wentworth Shire Council adopted the Buronga Gol Gol Structure 2020 and supporting report (2020 Structure Plan) in September 2020 to provide strategic land use framework to facilitate quality and sustainable urban development in the Buronga Gol Gol area by setting out what, when, where and how land use and infrastructure development should occur. Chapter 5 of the 2020 plan recommended a review of the plan be conducted every 4 years. The Buronga Gol Gol area has been experiencing rapid growth in terms of population and housing development, prompting the need for a review of the 2020 Structure Plan to guide, manage and monitor future growth and development in the area. The need for a review based on changing situation on the ground was a recommendation in Chapter 5 of the 2020 Structure Plan.

Council engaged Cadell Consulting to conduct a partial review of the 2020 Structure Plan key elements, so that it can adequately respond to the growth occurring in the area and comply with the recommendation in chapter 5 of the 2020 plan.

The draft Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2026 and supporting report (draft 2026 Structure Plan) provides up to date strategic land use framework to facilitate quality and sustainable urban development in the Buronga Gol Gol area by setting out what, when, where and how land use and infrastructure development should occur.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the draft Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2026 and supporting report for community consultation for a period of 28 days (25 April 2026 to 23 May 2026) in accordance with Council's Community Participation Plan.

Council Resolution

That Council endorses the draft Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2026 and supporting report for community consultation for a period of 28 days (25 April 2026 to 23 May 2026) in accordance with Council's Community Participation Plan.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 DA2025/165 SWIMMING POOL WITH SAFETY BARRIER 221 POONCARIE ROAD LOT 7 DP 1270097 WENTWORTH

File Number:	RPT/26/162
Responsible Officer:	Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division:	Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer:	George Kenende - Strategic Planner
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy:	4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

A development application (DA2025/165) was received by Council on 18 September 2025 for a swimming pool and barrier at 221 Pooncarie Road Lot 7 DP 1270097 Wentworth, within the river front area.

Under the R5 Large Lot Residential zoning of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011* (WLEP 2011), the proposed development (swimming pool with barrier) is permitted with consent as an ancillary land use to the dwelling if requirements under section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* are met.

River front area is defined as “*the land between the river front building line and the highest bank of the Murray River or, if there is no river front building line, the land within 30 metres of the highest bank of the River*” in WLEP 2011.

Murray River is defined as “*includes the Darling River and the Great Darling Anabran*” in WLEP 2011.

Clause 7.6(2) establishes that despite any other provision in the LEP, development consent may only be granted for development on land in a river front area for various purposes listed in 7.6(2) of the WLEP 2011, none of which include a swimming pool. The proposed development does not fall within those purposes. The applicant has provided a written Clause 4.6 request to vary the numerical development standard – development on river front area in Clauses 7.6 (2) of the WLEP 2011. Clause 4.6(2) of the WLEP 2011 allows variations of development standards.

The proposed development is approximately 19.97m (measured) from high bank of river, with a variation of 10.03m from the control (33.4%). Due to the variation being greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Determine DA2025/165 for a swimming pool with barrier at 221 Pooncarie Road Lot 7 DP 1270097 from the two nominated options within the report.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Approve DA2025/165 for a swimming pool with barrier at 221 Pooncarie Road lot 7 DP 1270097 Wentworth subject to draft conditions of consent as presented in attachment 6 excluding condition 10.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Weeding**CARRIED**

In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Armstrong, Beaumont, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.***

Against the Motion: ***Clr. Nichols.***

9.9 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATION REPORT - MARCH 2026

File Number: RPT/26/143

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Chloe Stephenson - Coordinator Health & Planning

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

For the month of March 2026, a total of 25 Development Applications and three (3) Modification Applications were determined.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$8,359,830.98. This brings the Financial year to date total to 144 Development Applications with an estimated development value of \$58,423,041.47 and 19 Modification Applications.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of March 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of March 2026.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT APRIL 2026

File Number: RPT/26/141

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director of Roads & Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Megan Jackson - Roads & Engineering Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the months of March 2026, and the planned activities for April 2026.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in March 2026 and the scheduled works for April 2026.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in March 2026 and the scheduled works for April 2026.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Starick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 RECOGNITION OF LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

File Number: RPT/26/172

Motion

That Council:

1. Recognise the Rotunda at Gol Gol to display commemorative plaques of notable community figures. Council to establish a suitable (not more frequent than annual) process for community nominations and recognition.
2. An initial plaque to be affixed in honour of Ewen Reuben Cameron 1925-1975, known affectionately as ERKY. War hero and Gol Gol local. (Appropriate ceremony to be advised)
3. Name the lane way in Gol Gol parallel to the Sturt Highway and William Street from Bligh Street to Tapio Street "Cameron Lane" as per 2025 request from Lynne Cameron.
4. Erect a sign adjacent to the shared path near the Drings Hill Reserve "Tom Modica Pathway" in recognition of his decades of community service, including founding member of the Gol Gol Public School Parents and Citizens Association in 1966, Charter Member of Buronga-Gol Gol Lions Club, life member of local Senior Citizens Association, and keen daily walker of the Gol Gol shared path well into his 80's. (Appropriate ceremony to be advised).

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Recognise the Rotunda at Gol Gol to display commemorative plaques of notable community figures. Council to establish a suitable (not more frequent than annual) process for community nominations and recognition.
2. An initial plaque to be affixed in honour of Ewen Reuben Cameron 1925-1975, known affectionately as ERKY. War hero and Gol Gol local. (Appropriate ceremony to be advised)
3. Name the lane way in Gol Gol parallel to the Sturt Highway and William Street from Bligh Street to Tapio Street "Cameron Lane" as per 2025 request from Lynne Cameron.
4. Erect a sign adjacent to the shared path near the Drings Hill Reserve "Tom Modica Pathway" in recognition of his decades of community service, including founding member of the Gol Gol Public School Parents and Citizens Association in 1966, Charter Member of Buronga-Gol Gol Lions Club, life member of local Senior Citizens Association, and keen daily walker of the Gol Gol shared path well into his 80's. (Appropriate ceremony to be advised).

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 6:08pm

NEXT MEETING

13 May 2026

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CHAIR