



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA

Notice is hereby given
that the next Ordinary Council Meeting
will be held on
Tuesday 29 April 2025

in the Council Chambers,
16-18 Anne Street, George Town,

commencing at **1:00 pm.**

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

The public are requested to pre-register if attending this meeting of Council.

Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

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Meeting Commencing at 1:00 pm

Acknowledgement of Country

George Town Council acknowledges the palawa people from the litarimirina tribe from Port Dalrymple as the traditional custodians of the land.

We honour and give thanks for the caring of country, seas and skies of kinimathatakinta and surrounds.

We pay respect to the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope of pakana people in lutruwita.

AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is advised that it is **Council Policy** to record the proceedings of meetings of Council on digital media to assist in the preparation of Minutes, and to clarify any queries relating to the Minutes that is raised during a subsequent meeting under the section "Confirmation of Minutes".

The recording does not replace the written Minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared.

All meetings of the Council shall be digitally recorded as provided for by Regulation 33 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 15(2).

In accordance with the requirements of Council's Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy GTC 1, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

The community are requested to pre-register to attend this meeting of Council.

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the above Act and Notice, and the standard applicable provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

1 PRESENT

1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 25 MARCH 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 25 March 2025 numbered 27/25 to 43/25 as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings. (Attached)

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME PROCEDURE

[Refer to Minute No. 243/16. The period set aside for public question time will be at least 15 minutes. Questions given on notice will be addressed first. Once questions on notice have been addressed, persons who have registered their interest to ask a question will be called to do so in the order in which they have registered. Persons attending Council meetings will have the opportunity to register their interest to ask a question without notice prior to the commencement of the meeting. Council staff will be on hand to assist with this process.]

Participants cannot ask more than 2 questions in a row with a maximum of 2 minutes per question. If a person has more than (2) questions, they will be placed at the 'end of the queue' and may, if time permits, ask their further questions once all other persons have had an opportunity to ask questions. Persons who have not registered their interest to ask a question will be given an opportunity to do so following all those who have registered. All questions must be directed to the Chairperson.

For further information on Council's Public Question Time Rules and Procedure, please refer to George Town Council Public Question Time Policy GTC13.

Questions asked and answers provided may be summarised in the Minutes of the meeting.

Council requests that members of the public pre-register to attend meetings of Council.

5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

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5.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Commenced at:

Concluded at:

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5.4 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(Refer to Minute No. 425/00, which states in part, "that a copy of all written replies to questions from the Public Gallery be included in the following Council Agenda.")

Mr Judd



17 April 2025

Mr M. Judd

Email: m.judd@georgetown.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Judd,

Re: Public Question Time – 25 March 2025

Thank you for your attendance at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where you raised the following questions. Please see below response to each of the questions in italics.

Q1. On completion of the pool condition assessment was it supplied to all of our elected councillors?

Yes

Q2. If indeed it was supplied then when was this action taken, date please?

The report was provided to Councillors on 9 October 2024.

Q3. At any stage after council received the pool condition assessment were the elected Councillors given an opportunity to inspect and query the condition assessment with a suitably qualified person?

Councillors can make requests, discuss, scrutinise and question information presented to them. Some Councillors have subsequently inspected the pool.

Q4. If no pool condition assessment inspection was not offered was any formal briefing given to elected Councillors from a suitably qualified person, in order that they were able to ask the suitably qualified person of any concerns they may have had.

N/A as per the previous question.

Q5. At any stage during the consultation and design stage were there conceptual drawing done which included the existing 25 metre outdoor pool?

Initially, Council's intention was to construct a facility that included indoor and outdoor aquatic elements. However, delays in receiving confirmation of funding caused issues with the scope of the project. Post-COVID pandemic inflation and rising costs experienced across the construction sector impacted Council's ability to deliver the project as initially envisaged, specifically building a new outdoor pool.

Council opted to invest in a new, contemporary indoor facility to increase community usage, rather than spend increasing amounts on maintaining the existing pool that is deteriorating.

Q6. In light of there being plans within the new pool project for a cafe was any form of building assessment undertaken in order to identify opportunities for reuse, upgrading or incorporating any worthwhile

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features from the existing infrastructure?

The infrastructure on the site is 40 years old, and therefore the plan has always been to ensure the aquatic centre is built with materials that meet contemporary standards as well as maximise the new facility's lifespan.

Q7. When was the decision made to demolish the original 25 metre outdoor pool?

February 2025.

Q8. How was this decision reached and by what means?

Councillors have been thoroughly briefed from the beginning by Council officers, and external specialist advisors, with all options being considered.

After extensive consultation through Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy, an indoor aquatic facility incorporating health and wellbeing services was identified as a priority for the community. This formed the basis for Council's funding request, which ultimately contributed to the success of our funding application.

Delays in funding confirmation, coupled with a drastic rise in construction costs meant Council had to prioritise investing in a new, contemporary indoor facility to increase community usage, rather than spend increasing amounts on maintaining the existing pool that is deteriorating.

Q9. Was this decision voted on by elected Councillors or was the decision made by senior management?

Refer previous question.

Q10. Was the key factor in reaching this decision orchestrated from the pool condition assessment?

No. As operators of the existing pool Council was aware of the condition of the structure and what is required to maintain it. Unsurprisingly the condition assessment confirmed what was already known.

Q11. If so, then can that key information be made public?

N/A as per the previous question.

As stated at the Ordinary Council meeting, your questions with responses will be published in the 29 April 2025 Ordinary Council meeting agenda.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office on council@georgetown.tas.gov.au or 03) 6382 8800.

Yours sincerely,



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

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Mrs L. Wootton



17 April 2025

Mrs L. Wootton

Dear Mrs Wootton,

Re: Public Question Time – 25 March 2025

Thank you for your attendance at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where you raised the following questions. Please see below response to each of the questions in italics.

Q1. How many people in total attended the series of meetings held on two days last week?

Nine sessions, with each session able to cater for 10 people, were advertised extensively and initially were largely booked out by a small number of individuals reserving multiple seats. Council contacted these people to advise a preference of one person per booking, which resulted in some people cancelling their bookings altogether.

Three sessions were cancelled all together due to low numbers, and the registered participants moved to one of the six remaining sessions. Of the 60 remaining available spots, 55 were booked, with only 40 attending. No sessions had all bookings turn up.

Q2. What was the total cost of running those meetings?

Both external advisors participated in delivering the community information sessions as part of existing arrangements. Some additional travel and accommodation costs were incurred, with one advisor coming from Victoria, and the other from Hobart. It is estimated that the cost of running the information sessions was \$6,000-\$7,000.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office on council@georgetown.tas.gov.au or 03) 6382 8800.

Yours sincerely,

**Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER**

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Mr G. Neilsen



17 April 2025

Mr G. Neilsen

Dear Mr Neilsen,

Re: Public Question Time – 25 March 2025

Thank you for your attendance at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where you raised the following questions. Please see below response to each of the questions in italics.

Q2. Mayor on the 6th March you made some claims and gave information on Tamar FM Radio following the February Council meeting which I considered required a response.

The station has granted me a right of reply and they have offered to record an interview with me next week.

In your report you quoted over \$3 million to keep the outdoor pool functional and referenced the Deed which covers the Federal \$15 million contribution to the new Aquatic Centre.

Can you please provide me with a copy of the Deed this week and the evidence on which you relied to quote the costs of keeping the 25 m pool operational?

Advice from the grant provider is that the deed contains confidential information and is not appropriate for public sharing. However, Council as the Grantee can share: -

- *information pertaining to the purpose of the grant; and*
- *the activities that need to be delivered under the grant;*

by way of the relevant page extracted from the grant deed document (see below).

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Grant Details PCIP0068

A. Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of the Grant is to support community and sporting infrastructure through the construction of an aquatic, health and wellbeing facility.

This Grant is being provided under Priority Community Infrastructure Program, (the Program) and these Grant Details form part of the Agreement between the Commonwealth and the Grantee as of the date of execution for PCIP0068 – George Town Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre.

The Grant is being provided as part of the Program.

B. Activity

The Grantee must deliver the following Activities:

- Design, construction and fit-out of a leisure and aquatic centre, including:
 - An indoor Learn to Swim pool of at least 3 lanes at 12.5m length;
 - An indoor pool of at least 3 lanes at 25m length;
 - Reception, kiosk and retail area;
 - At least 2 cleaner's closets;
 - Office space of at least 18m²;
 - A plant room with associated supporting infrastructure and mechanical room;
 - At least 1 separate store room for equipment, chemicals and ambient products;
 - First aid room of at least 6m²;
 - At least 1 gym area of 100m²;
 - At least 2 allied health/specialist rooms of 12m²;
 - At least 2 group fitness areas of a minimum combined area of 200m²;
 - Male, female and family amenities including changing places, lockers, showers and water closets;
 - At least 2 accessible amenities; and
 - Associated external landscaping.

The Grantee must undertake the Activity so as to meet the following outcomes:

- The enhancement of community infrastructure through the construction of an aquatic, health and wellbeing facility that improves equity outcomes and social inclusion, and encourages the community to thrive economically and socially.

The Grantee must complete the milestones specified in the table below by the corresponding due date. If the Grantee does not complete a milestone described as a critical milestone by the corresponding due date, the parties agree that the Commonwealth may treat such failure as a breach of this Agreement incapable of remedy for the purposes of clause 19 of Schedule 1 (Commonwealth Standard Grant Conditions).

- Q. So I want clarification you gave technical details in responding to Mr Brown around the seepage from the pool. Can you please tell us if that detailed engineering is in the report and that we have in the black or the details you gave,

Mr Neilsen asked the Acting General Manager to you have any objections to me releasing the document that was left at my house?

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The document is and shall remain in the property of the report author and may only be used for the purpose for which it was commissioned and in accordance with the Terms of Engagement for the commission. Unauthorised use of this document in any form whatsoever is prohibited.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office on council@georgetown.tas.gov.au or 03) 6382 8800.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Shane Power', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER



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Ms C. Crawford-Coates



17 April 2025

Ms C. Crawford-Coates

Dear Ms C. Crawford-Coates,

Re: Public Question Time – 25 March 2025

Thank you for your attendance at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where you raised the following questions. Please see below response to each of the questions in italics.

Q1. Ms Crawford-Coates advised that she has Mr Neilsen's question. I ask when did elected members as the Community Trustees of all that we the ratepayers own debate and pass a motion to make the momentous decision to authorise management to initiate and proceed with plans and processes that would lead to the decommissioning and destroying of all of the Swimming Centre including the 25 m pool?

Councillors have been thoroughly briefed from the beginning by management, council officers, and external specialist advisors, with all options being considered. Ultimately, Council opted to invest in a new, contemporary indoor facility to increase community usage, rather than spend increasing amounts on maintaining the existing pool that is deteriorating.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office on council@georgetown.tas.gov.au or 03) 6382 8800.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Power'.

**Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER**

6 GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION

I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendations provided to Council with this Agenda:

- the advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation; and
- where any advice is given directly to Council by a person who does not have the required qualifications of experience, that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice, the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – SECTION 65

65. Qualified persons

- (1) A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
- (2) A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless –
 - (a) the general manager certifies, in writing –
 - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
 - (ii) that the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
 - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.

7 PLANNING AUTHORITY

Councils are a planning authority. Each council acts as the planning authority for their municipality. In this role, councillors consider development applications and make administrative decisions that are based on the council's planning scheme. While councillors are obliged to consider the community's views, this does not mean they can vote in favour of those views while fulfilling the role of a planning authority. Councillors must make planning decisions based on whether a planning application is consistent with the local planning scheme, even if members of the community object to the planning proposal.

Nil.

8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOP MARCH AND APRIL 2025

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE: 17 April 2025
FILE NO: 14.10
ATTACHMENTS: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a record of workshops held in accordance with the requirements of Section 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DATE AND PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP HELD

TUESDAY 18 MARCH 2025

- Operational Budget
- Budget Submissions
- Rates
- Preliminary Proposed Capital Works Program

Present: Mayor Greg Kieser, Cr Winston Archer, Cr Heather Ashley,
Cr Tim Harris, Cr Simone Lowe, Cr Winston Mason

Apologies: Cr Heather Barwick
Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson
Cr Jason Orr

In Attendance: General Manager
Director Infrastructure & Development
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement
Director Corporate & Community
Senior Executive Assistant & Governance Officer

TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2025

- Planning and Building Update
- Capital Works Update
- Agenda Review
- Draft George Town & Low Head Open Space Plan
- Community Grants – Round 2
- Governance Issues
- Councillors/General Manager Discussions

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Present: Mayor Greg Kieser, Cr Winston Archer, Cr Heather Ashley,
Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Tim Harris, Cr Simone Lowe,
Cr Jason Orr, Cr Winston Mason

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson
General Manager
Director Infrastructure & Development

In Attendance: Acting General Manager
Director Corporate & Community
Senior Executive Assistant & Governance Officer
Team Leader Building and Planning

Guests: Nil.

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

- Unconfirmed Minutes of the 25 March Ordinary Council Meeting
- Unconfirmed Minutes of the 25 March Closed Ordinary Council meeting
- Tip Shop Business Case
- Tree Planting Program
- TasPorts Bass Strait Renewable Energy Terminal
- Priority Footpath & Road Network Layout Plans
- Stormwater Drainage Plan for Beechford
- Community Assistance Policy
- Rescinding of Obsolete Motions and Removal of Motions from Outstanding Motions Register
- Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Governance
- Councillors/General Manager Discussions

Present: Mayor Greg Kieser, Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson, Cr Winston Archer,
Cr Heather Ashley, Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Tim Harris,
Cr Simone Lowe, Cr Winston Mason, Cr Jason Orr

Apologies: Nil

In Attendance: General Manager
Director Infrastructure & Development
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement
Director Corporate & Community
Senior Executive Assistant & Governance Officer
Operations Coordinator
Project Manager
Coordinator Engineering & Projects

Guests: Representatives from TasPorts

TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2025

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- Notes from Previous Meeting
- Operational Budget
- Fees and Charges
- Budget Submissions
- User Agreements
- Rates
- Preliminary Proposed Capital Works Program

Present: Mayor Greg Kieser, Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson, Cr Winston Archer, Cr Heather Ashley, Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Tim Harris, Cr Simone Lowe, Cr Winston Mason, Cr Jason Orr

Apologies: Nil

In Attendance: General Manager
Director Infrastructure & Development
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement
Director Corporate & Community
Senior Executive Assistant & Governance Officer

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction Four- Leadership and Accountable Governance

33. Fair and open planning regulatory processes

- i. There is community knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

This report is provided in accordance with Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Section 8(2)(c). Risk implications are therefore considered to be low.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

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George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Support the motion as presented; or
2. Support the motion with amendment; or
3. Not support the motion.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Nil.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on the 18th March, 25th March, 8th April and 15th April 2025.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

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8.2 RESCINDING OF OBSOLETE MOTIONS AND REMOVAL OF MOTIONS FROM OUTSTANDING MOTIONS REGISTER

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE:	17 April 2025
FILE NO:	14.12, 14.5
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with Council resolutions recommended for removal from the outstanding motions register.

BACKGROUND

This report recommends the rescinding of outstanding motions that have been made obsolete by way of successive motions or actions or are considered to be of an operational nature, in practice and functioning. This report also recommends the removal of nominated motions from the Outstanding Motions Register where appropriate.

Officers maintain a register of motions of Council which is presented to elected members on a quarterly basis to track and report on progress. The report details motions completed in the reporting period and those that remain outstanding. The register of outstanding motions (attached) contains motions dating back to 2017 with many being obsolete and others containing decisions or directions of an ongoing nature. The intent in removing identified motions is to provide accurate performance reporting on actioning of Council motions without diminishing decisions or directions from Council.

This report was presented to the 25th March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where Council resolved to:

Minute No. 33/25

That Council defer this item.

Further discussion was held at the 8th April 2025 Council Workshop.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2024-2030:

Future Direction Four- Leadership and Accountable Governance

33. Fair and open planning regulatory processes

- i. There is community knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes

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STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Section 18 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, *Motion to overturn decision* prescribes:

- (1) *For the purposes of this regulation, a decision may be overturned, wholly or partly, by –*
 - (a) *a motion directly rescinding or otherwise overturning the decision or part of the decision; or*
 - (b) *a motion that conflicts with, or is contrary to, the decision or part of the decision.*

- (2) *A council or council committee may only overturn a decision passed at a previous meeting held since the last ordinary election –*
 - (a) *by an absolute majority, in the case of a council; or*
 - (b) *by a simple majority, in the case of a council committee.*

- (3) *Any report given by the general manager to a council in respect of a proposed motion to overturn a decision of the council, or that will result in the overturning of a decision of the council, wholly or partly, is to include –*
 - (a) *a statement that the proposed motion, if resolved in the affirmative, would overturn that previous decision or part of that previous decision; and*
 - (b) *the details of that previous decision, or the part of that previous decision, that would be overturned; and*
 - (c) *advice as to whether or not that previous decision, or that part of that previous decision, directed that certain action be taken; and*
 - (d) *if that previous decision, or that part of that previous decision, directed that certain action be taken, advice as to whether or not that action has been wholly or substantially carried out.*

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Endorsing the officers recommendation is deemed to have minimal risk.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications identified with the proposed action.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2024-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

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Outstanding motions to be considered for rescinding has been presented to Council at its workshop on the 11 March 2025, 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting and 8th April 2025 Council Workshop for consideration.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Support the recommendation as presented; or
2. Support the recommendation with amendment; or
3. Not support the recommendation.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

It is the view of the General Manager the below table comprises motions that have been made obsolete by way of successive motions or actions or are considered to be of an operational nature, in practice and functioning. Completed motions as at 31 December 2024 have been included for information purposes.

Green - Completed as at 31 December 2024
Yellow - Updated status report at 31 March 2025

Outstanding Motions listed as at 31 December 2024

Min No.	Date	Motion	Action/ Comments as at 13 March 2025
PLANNING			
45/24	23/04/24	Request to Remove Part 5 Agreement – 6 Leads Avenue, Low Head That Council: 1. defer the item.	In progress. Report provided at the March Council Workshop.
114/24	23/07/24	DA 2024/13 – 40 Davis Street, Beechford – Subdivision (11 Lots and Road) <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed
128/24	27/08/24	Request to Remove Part 5 Agreement – 86 Bell Buoy Beach Road, Low Head That Council: 1. agrees, pursuant to section 74(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, to end the agreement D34898 registered against the title of 86 Bellbuoy Beach Road, Low Head (CT163013/4).	Completed

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151/24	22/10/24	DA2024/74 - 80 North Street, George Town - Subdivision (1 Lot & Balance) <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed
152/24	22/10/24	DA2024/75 - 93 Burton Street, Hillwood - Resource Development - Free-Range Poultry/Eggs <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed
165/24	26/11/24	DA 2024/86 - 82 Bellbuoy Beach Road, Low Head - Subdivision (1 Lot To 4 Lots) <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed
166/24	26/11/24	DA2024/60 - Residential - Single Dwelling & Outbuilding - 253 Old Bangor Tram Road, Mount Direction (Ct177146/1) With Access Via Crown Road Reserve <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed
ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE, STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT			
052/21	27/04/21	Notice of Motions – Dog Management Policy Review That this motion be put to the next workshop for discussion.	Completed
024/23	28/02/23	S24 Special Committee Review – George Town Safety Group Committee That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disestablish the existing Committee; 2. Consider what a “Health and Wellbeing Committee” may look like, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. whether this would be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. a Section 23 Council Committee (comprised of Councillors appointed by the Council); or ii. a Section 24 Special Committee (comprised of such persons appointed by the Council as the Council thinks appropriate), and b. giving consideration to draft Terms of Reference to be brought before Council at the next Workshop for discussion; and 3. Include such a Committee in the 2023/24 Annual Plan. 	Completed Report provided to Council at the 25 February Ordinary Council meeting.
INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT			
136/17	17/05/17	Accessible Car Parking That Council: c) Receives the report from the Manager of Infrastructure and Engineering and notes the report information; and	Completed Report provided to the Safety Group

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Undertakes an audit of Council's existing accessible car parking infrastructure within the George Town boundary to determine compliance with regulations; and c) Develops a priority list with a view to progressively upgrading these assets, according to available funding, resources and needs. 	Committee meeting.
047/22	26/04/22	<p>Proposed Speed Limit Changes – Hillwood That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proceed with a formal application to the Commissioner of Transport seeking approval to consolidate speed zones as presented in Attachment (5), with amendment reflecting advice from the Department of State Growth for a shorter 40 km/h zone. 	Completed
067/22	24/05/22	<p>Proposed Acquisition of Crown Land for Public Open Space and Light Industrial Buffer That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. commence a process with the State Government through Parks Wildlife Services, Crown Land Services, or their delegated agents, to transfer a portion of land (consisting of approximately 3.5 hectares and forming part of PID:7852601) to George Town Council under a Section 12 transfer (Crown Land Act 1976), for the purposes of public open space. 	On hold at the direction of State Government.
23/23	28/02/23	<p>Consideration of Entering into a Lease with Crown Land Re: Land Between Elizabeth Street and Bathurst Street, George Town That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In respect of the land between Elizabeth Street & Bathurst Street, George Town: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirms its intention to enter into a ten (10) year lease; and b. Authorises the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreement on behalf of Council. 	In progress
128/23	25/07/23	<p>Aquatic, Health & Wellbeing Centre – Cr Archer That Council consider and adopt a funding method for any expense beyond the promised \$17.5m with options for rescoping, before spending any</p>	In progress

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		further money on the upgrade of the Aquatic, Health & Wellbeing Centre.	
148/23	22/08/23	Marguerite Street Property – Cr Lowe The Council should examine the capability and address any issues to guarantee continuous utilisation possibilities for the Marguerite Street property located within the Blue Gum Park facility.	Completed. Report provided to the March Council Workshop.
52/24	23/04/24	East Beach Viewing Platform That Council: 1. Undertake the necessary remediation and repairs to the existing viewing platform at 40 Gunn Parade, Low Head, CT 198058/1 at Council's expense; 2. Authorise the General Manger to formally transfer ownership and ongoing responsibility for the viewing platform at 40 Gunn Parade, Low Head, CT 198058/1 to the owners of the land.	Works completed and asset transitioned to private ownership.
111/24	25/06/24	Confidential Item - Coastal Drainage Assessment Report <i>As per resolution.</i>	In progress. To be completed in May 2025.
121/24	23/07/24	Additional Schedule of Fees for the 2024/2025 Financial Year That Council, pursuant to Section 205 of the Local Government Act 1993 receive and adopt the additional schedule of fees as listed below for the 2024/2025 financial year. <i>As per resolution.</i>	Schedules updated – completed.
148/24	24/09/24	Confidential Item – Strategic Acquisition <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed.
160/24	22/10/24	RFT 09/2024 Gravel Resheeting Program 2024/25 <i>As per resolution</i>	Completed.
161/24	22/10/24	RFT 07/2024 Old Aerodrome Road Upgrade (Stage 2) – Closed Council <i>As per resolution</i>	Completed.
170/24	26/11/24	Boundary Fence Contribution Policy That Council: 1. Adopts the Boundary Fence Contribution policy as attached effective 26 November 2024.	Completed.

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171/24	13/11/24	Request to Separate Titles - 13 Wellington Street George Town That Council: 1. Agree to issue a certificate under section 90 of the <i>Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993</i> , relating to Sealed Plan 38682/3, but only at such time that the following has occurred: a) a planning application for subdivision depicting Lots 1 and 2 on the Plan has been submitted, assessed and approved in accordance with the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993; and b) all conditions of any such approval have been met.	In progress.
176/24	26/11/24	RFT 08/2024 - Early Contractor Involvement (Eci) - Construction Of George Town Aquatic, Health And Wellbeing Centre – Closed Council <i>As per resolution</i>	Completed.
181/24	17/12/24	Consideration – New Crown Agreements That Council: Accepts responsibility for and authorises the General Manager to enter into a ten (10) year agreements by signing and sealing the required documentation for the following: a. Foreshore Site: Leam Rd Corner b. York Cove Pontoon & Boat Ramp c. Low Head Pontoon d. Weymouth Hall	In progress.
CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY			
040/23	28/03/23	George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail That Council: 1. Lay the item on the table and return to the Ordinary Council meeting in April with amendments if required. 2. Invite the people that made submissions to meet with staff to correct inaccuracies in the draft Colonial Storytelling Trail.	In progress. Presentation to occur at a Council Workshop on Three Trails.

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037/24	26/03/24	Community Events and Sponsorship Application Process That Council establish a transparent application process outlining the criteria for sustaining a budget line item in relation to community events and sponsorships, inclusive of all expectations in relation to financial reporting and profit and loss reconciliations as a priority.	Completed
143/24	24/09/24	Community Assistance Grants Round 1 That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awards financial assistance to St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania to the amount of \$1,600 – Towards supplies for the Dining with Friends community service program. 2. Awards financial assistance to George Town Neighbourhood House to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards Testing and Tagging Course, Machine and Tags. 3. Awards financial assistance to Tam O'Shanter Golf and Community Club to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards the upgrading of the club heat pump. 4. Awards financial assistance to Lions Club of George Town Inc to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards large screen TV for installation in the Senior Citizens Room at the York Cove Centre. 5. Awards financial assistance to George Town Art and Artisans to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards a marketing campaign. 6. Awards financial assistance to George Town Folk Club Inc to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards new website for the Tamar Valley Folk Festival. 7. Awards financial assistance to East Tamar Landcare Group to the amount of \$2,000 – Towards a boardwalk extension at the Reg Yates Memorial Interpretation Centre, Pipers River. 8. Awards financial assistance to Pipers River Neighbourhood Watch to the amount of \$377.60 – Towards equipment – BBQ and projector screen for community engagement. 	Completed.
156/24	22/10/24	Audit Panel - Appointment of Independent Member That Council:	Completed.

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the appointment of Andrew Gray as an independent member and independent chairperson of Council's Audit Panel, for a further period of two (2) years, in accordance with Section 6 of the Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014 and Section 5 of Council's Audit Panel Charter, and 2. Approve the General Manager to execute an agreement with Andrew Gray as an independent member and independent chairperson for a period of two (2) years. 	
182/24	17/12/24	Sponsorship Policy That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the amended GTC-22 Sponsorship Policy. 	Completed.
183/24	17/12/24	George Town Council Audit Panel Committee Minutes That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Receives and notes the Minutes of the Audit Panel meeting held on 19 June 2024 and 18 September 2024 as an accurate record of that meeting. 	Completed.
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER			
025/18	21/02/18	Potential Council Land Sales That the following items be deferred to a workshop: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (f) Sell Gerzalia Drive (PID 1737346) with proceeds from the sale to be invested into public open space within the community; (f) Sell 15 Riverleads Drive (PID 1723024) with proceeds from the sale to be invested into public open space within the community; (f) Offer for sale 30 Davies Street (PID 6450301) to adjoining land owners only due to the existing access issues and limited use as standalone parcel of land; (f) Sell 241 Agnes Street (PID 1931747) with proceeds from the sale to be invested into public open space within the community; (f) Offer for sale Gerzalia Drive (PID 2048374) to adjoining land owner due to limited 	Completed – superceded with Motion 078/24.

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		development opportunity; (f) Offer for sale Gerzalia Drive (PID 1737346) with proceeds from the sale to be invested into public open space within the community.	
100/20	23/06/20	Notice of Motion – Domestic/Family and Sexual Violence Strategy – Cr Brooks That Council develops a Domestic /Family and Sexual Violence Strategy in order to demonstrate our commitment to making our community safer for everyone impacted by the trauma of violence and that Council formally commits to working with Police, Community Service organisations and housing providers on not only addressing but stamping out this insidious societal problem.	Completed. Health & Wellbeing Committee to consider preventative actions. Adopted Terms of Reference for Health and Wellbeing Committee at February Ordinary Council meeting.
019/22	22/02/22	Proposed Making of a By-Law – Reserves, Parks and Gardens By-Law 1/2022 That Council: Endorse the introduction of Reserves, Parks and Gardens By-law 1/2022 in accordance with the specific requirements as determined in Division 2 of Part 11 of the Local Government Act 1993.	Commenced
127/22	23/08/22	Strategic Land Acquisition – Closed Council <i>As per resolution.</i>	Completed.
184/22	20/12/22	Request to Commemorate the Late Mr Peter Cox That Council: 1. In principle, confirms support for the naming of land bound by 50 Tamar Avenue and 76 Tamar Avenue to commemorate the late Mr Peter Cox; noting that the following actions need to occur: a) Ascertains if the land in question is able to be utilised as a park or reserve; b) Contacts the residents of Tamar Avenue who have supported the proposal, the private owner of number 62 Tamar	In progress.

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		<p>Avenue and the Crown in relation to the proposal;</p> <p>c) Contacts the family of the late Mr. Peter Cox to obtain written consent to commemorate the deceased and obtain the required biography;</p> <p>d) Undertakes investigations in relation to any Aboriginal name for the area which may need to be taken into consideration when naming;</p> <p>2. Proceeds to a Community Consultation in line with the consultation framework set out by Placenames Tasmania and George Town Council's policies and procedures.</p>	
06/23	24/01/23	<p>Notice of Motion – New and Renewed Lease Arrangements</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>1. That any new or renewed lease arrangements being considered by Council Management, under section 175 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, be brought to Council Workshop for discussion and then be scheduled for the next available Council meeting for a decision by Council.</p> <p>2. Notes, the General Manager (or their delegate) are authorised to execute leases of an operational nature.</p>	Ongoing
19/23	28/02/23	<p>kanamaluka Trail Upgrade</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Proceed with the concreting of approximately 240 meters of the gravel section of the kanamaluka Trail as highlighted in Image One in the body of the report; and</p> <p>2. Authorise the General Manager to provide for George Town Park Run approval to use the kanamaluka Trail.</p> <p>3. Subject to future budget processes and funding opportunities, concrete a shared path with an alternative alignment (as illustrated in inset within the body of the report) connecting to future and existing concrete paths at Anne Street and North Street.</p> <p>4. The future works will complete a fully accessible path existing from George Town to</p>	Completed

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		Low Head while leaving a gravel path section for Park Run users.	
061/23	26/04/23	Mt George Semaphore and Mast – Lease That Council authorise the General Manager to organise a lease agreement with Crown Land Services over Mt. George Semaphore site at his discretion.	Ongoing
112/23	27/06/23	280 Jetty Road, Hillwood – Cr Barwick Minute Number 045/23 - 280 Jetty Road, Hillwood remain on the Outstanding Council Motions list until the Section 12 agreement is executed over Crown Land adjoining Council Freehold Land PID 7852767 (known as the Hillwood Football ground).	Included on outstanding motions list.
183/23	24/10/23	Councillor Expenses – Cr Barwick The Councillor Expenses quarterly report (available on the Web site) itemises what the expense payable is i.e. like we state kilometres travelled.	Completed.
154/24	22/10/24	George Town Council's Annual Report 2023/2024 That Council: 1. Adopts the 2023/2024 Annual Report for George Town Council with the amendment of the inclusion of the IDAHOBIT Day flag raising ceremony.	Completed.
155/24	22/10/24	Draft Managing Unreasonable Conduct By Customers Policy That Council: 1. Adopt the Managing Unreasonable Conduct by Customers Policy as circulated; noting: a) The inclusion of and application to 'elected members' throughout; b) The deletion of 'access to services'; 2. Note the Managing Unreasonable Conduct by Customers Procedure/Guidelines; and 3. Adopt the amended GTC-8 Customer Service and Complaints Handling Policy; noting the removal of clause 11 'abusive customers'.	Completed.
169/24	26/11/24	Quarterly Report - Quarter 1 - 1 July - 30 September 2024 That Council: 1. Receives the George Town Council 1st Quarter Performance Report 1 July – 30 September 2024.	Completed.

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		2. Provide public access to the report as part of Council's commitment to ongoing good governance.	
175/24	26/11/24	General Manager's Professional Development <i>As per resolution</i>	Completed.
179/24	17/12/24	Council Workshops November and December 2024 That Council: Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on the 26 November 2024 and 10 December 2024 amendment to include Low Head in the George Town Open Space Plan topic.	Completed.
180/24	17/12/24	Draft Advocacy Plan and NTDC Regional Priority Projects That Council: 1. Adopts and endorses the George Town Council Advocacy Plan. 2. The General Manager is to ensure that up to date project costings are maintained. 3. The General Manager is to forward up to date project costings to NTDC and other interested parties as they are developed.	Completed.
OFFICE OF MAYOR			
		Nil.	

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the report; and
2. Notes the following motions are completed and will be removed from the Council Outstanding Motions list after the presentation of the 3rd Quarterly Performance Report dated 31 March 2025:
 - a. 114/24 DA 2024/13 – 40 Davis Street, Beechford – Subdivision (11 Lots and Road)
 - b. 128/24 DA 2024/13 – 40 Davis Street, Beechford – Subdivision (11 Lots and Road)
 - c. 151/24DA2024/74 - 80 North Street, George Town - Subdivision (1 Lot & Balance)

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- d. 152/24 DA2024/75 - 93 Burton Street, Hillwood - Resource Development - Free-Range Poultry/Eggs
- e. 165/24 DA 2024/86 - 82 Bellbuoy Beach Road, Low Head - Subdivision (1 Lot To 4 Lots)
- f. 166/24 DA2024/60 - Residential - Single Dwelling & Outbuilding - 253 Old Bangor Tram Road, Mount Direction (Ct177146/1) With Access Via Crown Road Reserve
- g. 052/21 Notice of Motions – Dog Management Policy Review
- h. 024/23 S24 Special Committee Review – George Town Safety Group Committee
- i. 136/17 Accessible Car Parking
- j. 047/22 Proposed Speed Limit Changes – Hillwood
- k. 148/23 Marguerite Street Property – Cr Lowe
- l. 121/24 Additional Schedule of Fees for the 2024/2025 Financial Year
- m. 148/24 Confidential Item – Strategic Acquisition
- n. 160/24 RFT 09/2024 Gravel Resheeting Program 2024/25
- o. 161/24 RFT 07/2024 Old Aerodrome Road Upgrade (Stage 2) – Closed Council
- p. 170/24 Boundary Fence Contribution Policy
- q. 176/24 RFT 08/2024 - Early Contractor Involvement (Eci) - Construction Of George Town Aquatic, Health And Wellbeing Centre – Closed Council
- r. 037/24 Community Events and Sponsorship Application Process
- s. 143/24 Community Assistance Grants Round 1
- t. 156/24 Audit Panel - Appointment of Independent Member
- u. 182/24 Sponsorship Policy
- v. 183/24 George Town Council Audit Panel Committee Minutes
- w. 025/18 Potential Council Land Sales
- x. 100/20 Notice of Motion – Domestic/Family and Sexual Violence Strategy – Cr Brooks
- y. 127/22 Strategic Land Acquisition – Closed Council
- z. 183/23 Councillor Expenses – Cr Barwick
- aa. 154/24 George Town Council's Annual Report 2023/2024
- bb. 155/24 Draft Managing Unreasonable Conduct By Customers Policy
- cc. 169/24 Quarterly Report - Quarter 1 - 1 July - 30 September 2024
- dd. 175/24 General Manager's Professional Development
- ee. 179/24 Council Workshops November and December 2024
- ff. 180/24 Draft Advocacy Plan and NTDC Regional Priority Projects
- gg. 19/23 kanamaluka Trail Upgrade
- hh. 52/24 East Beach Viewing Platform

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DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

9.1 POLICY - PRIVATE SIGNAGE ON COUNCIL LAND

REPORT AUTHOR:	Senior Town Planner - Mr J. Simons
REPORT DATE:	16th April 2025
FILE NO:	14.3
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Private Signage on Council Land Policy [9.1.1 - 11 pages]2. Private Signage on Council Land draft Procedure [9.1.2 - 4 pages]3. Submissions received to exhibition of previous draft [9.1.3 - 2 pages]

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to introduce a policy relating to the erection of private business/organisation signage in Council Land and Road Reserves, to address increased interest in the placement of private signage.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a number of requests from private business owners regarding the use of Council land to erect private business signage, particularly along Main Road.

Currently there are few instances where permanent private signage has been erected on public land. While Council land has generally been maintained with a low volume of private signage, the decision making process regarding how this has been achieved is unclear. It is possible that the planning process has been used in the past as an ad-hoc decision making tool.

Council has an existing policy - GTC-P1 Signs and Footpaths Policy, however this policy has not been effectively implemented and lacks a clear policy position.

Council's officers presented a revised policy at a workshop in 2021, however, it was not progressed or adopted at that time.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction Three - Community Pride

23. All communities take pride in their place

- iii. The design and maintenance of public spaces and places reinforces community identity and reputation

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Future Direction Four- Leadership and Accountable Governance

33. Fair and open planning regulatory processes

- i. There is community knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

The *Local Government Highways Act 1982* and the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993* empower Local Government Authorities to control signs proposed for erection on local roads.

Section 16(1) of the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935* states that any structure including an advertising sign, billboard or poster erected within any State Road reservation requires the prior approval of the Minister administering the Act.

For public land, such as parks and reserves, Council has Common Law rights to manage the land and to allow, or refuse to allow the erection of third party signs.

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - George Town includes provisions for the management of signage. Depending on the specifics some signage may require a planning permit, some may be exempt and some may be prohibited.

Major traffic control devices including regulatory speed limits can only be approved by the Transport Commissioner including on local roads managed by Council. These signs are not covered by this policy.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The following risks have been identified in accordance with Council's adopted Risk Management Framework and Risk Matrix in considering a signage policy.

- There is high risk of existing signage that does not comply with the policy which may require enforcement action or grandfathering.
- There is a moderate risk of inappropriately located signage in relation to road safety, sight lines and pedestrian safety.
- There is a minor risk of inappropriate wording or colouring of signs.
- There is a high risk of dissatisfaction within the business community if it is perceived that the approval of signage is in some way resulting in an unfair competitive advantage or it may be perceived that Council is not supporting economic development.

The policy aims to mitigate such risks, providing Council and community with clear guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's existing planning fees and charges include a fee for signage of \$99. It is proposed that an additional fee be added to cover sign applications on Council land where planning is not required. This fee will be similar to that of a permitted planning application for signs and will cover the cost of processing signage applications.

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There is currently limited capacity to recover the costs of removing signage from Council land. As such there is likely to be some financial impacts in instances where signs are not voluntarily removed by the land owner.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2024-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

The policy seeks to ensure that signage placed on Council land does not compromise accessibility.

CONSULTATION

No consultation has been undertaken directly for this policy. A previous draft was circulated within the community for 28 days in July 2021 and attracted 2 submissions.

The submissions are attached and the feedback has been taken into consideration in the preparation of this draft.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

- Support the policy as presented;
- Amend the policy;
- Reaffirm the existing policy;
- Delete the policy in its entirety.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Officers have been approached by local businesses looking to erect advertising signs within the road reservations of the George Town township approach. The policy aims to provide Council and community clarity around the application and installation of signage within Council managed land and road reserves.

Attempts to apply the existing policy GTC-P1 to date have identified fundamental issues with its operation. The policy was approved in December 2002 and is overdue for review (October 2020). The existing policy does not reflect contemporary statutory requirements and relevant guidelines.

Some of the difficulties with the policy include:

- Lack of policy position.
- Overly prescriptive, technical and processed based. A technical document, not a policy document.

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- Approval process is bedded in the policy, restricting capacity to amend the process as issues emerge.
- Does not actually provide guidance to Council staff or applicants regarding what types of signage are acceptable.
- Duplicates process and duplicates uncertainty.
- Does not appear to ensure a consistent approach to assessment of signage or maintain competitive neutrality by ensuring an equal opportunity to all business owners.

The recent draft prepared in 2022 remains overly reliant on the planning scheme and does not address Council's role as the land owner in determining what types of signage should be erected on Council land. The planning scheme now includes a significant range of signage that does not require planning permits, nor is it an appropriate mechanism to determine if Council as land owner supports signage.

An application process is proposed for all signs. This ensures signs are initially erected in a safe location, do not pose a hazard and have appropriate public liability cover.

Compliance action may be required where signage which does not meet the guidelines, is erected or does not have the necessary permits.

The policy provides opportunity for some signs, including:

- Portable Signs (sandwich boards and flags).
- Temporary Event Signs
- Finger Board Signs; and
- Sponsorship Signs

While prohibiting some signs, including:

- Permanent private business signs.
- Political Signs/Election Signs; and
- Real Estate Signs

The policy does not override the requirement for a planning permit in accordance with the Planning Scheme and the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

The policy does not apply to traffic or regulatory signage, nor community information signs erected by an authority such as Council.

The policy does not address other forms of street furniture or use of public land for street dining, coin operated games or ride on toys, shop awnings or food vans. A separate policy, or policies, will be required to deal with these matters.

In this instance an application process and fee has been prescribed. This is largely to ensure all signs are covered by sufficient public liability insurance and to cover the administrative costs of doing this. Council could consider not having a fee or application process, however, this results in greater risk of signs being erected in unsafe locations or being uninsured.

Consideration has also been given to cost recovery where Council must remove signs. The preference is that sign owners are notified of the breach and signs voluntarily removed. However if there is an immediate safety concern or the contents of the sign are

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undesirable, and Council does not know who the owner is or the sign is not removed in a reasonable time, Council officers will then remove the sign.

Where a planning permit is required there are specific enforcement and cost recovery processes in the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, however, this won't apply to all signs. The process is also complex, requiring a notice of intent to be issued and two weeks before Council can actually remove the sign. This is unlikely to be suitable in all cases. The fastest and most cost effective approach is to take signs down quickly, as they appear on Council land and absorb the costs.

Infringement penalties are written into legislation. Under the *Local Government Act 1993* there is no avenue to undertake cost recovery without a by-law in place. Council can consider a by-law at a later date should the costs of enforcement be unsustainable.

Privately owned signs that are removed by Council will be treated as lost property and will be held for collection for a minimum of two weeks before disposal.

A draft procedure for implementation of the policy is attached. Endorsement of the procedure is not recommended, to ensure the General Manager has flexibility to improve its effectiveness should issues arise with implementation.

It is noted that the current policy also covers goods display stands on Council Land. While this is not covered in the proposed policy, it is recommended that Council consider the development of a separate street furniture policy which covers goods displays, dining furniture, amusements, cafe barriers, awnings and other privately owned street furniture.

An effective date of July 2025 will provide an opportunity for Officers to record existing signs in Macquarie Street and Main Road.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopts the Private Signage on Council Land Policy as attached – With a commencement date of 1 July 2025 and a fee to be included in the 2025/2026 Fees and Charges.
2. Rescinds Policy GTC-P1 – Signs and Footpaths
3. Requests the General Manager to develop a procedure for implementation of the policy.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

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For:

Against:

10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

10.1 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE POLICY

REPORT AUTHOR:	Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
REPORT DATE:	17 April 2025
FILE NO:	14.33
ATTACHMENTS:	1. GTC C 11 Draft Community Assistance Policy [10.1.1 - 10 pages]

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with information regarding proposed changes to the Community Assistance Policy.

BACKGROUND

The current GTC –6 Community Assistance Policy was adopted by Council on 29th Hune 2021 (087/21).

The policy is due for review.

This review provides an opportunity to align the policy with Council's new policy naming and format conventions, together with a review of the frequency of the review process.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction One - Progressive well-resourced communities

4. Vibrant local communities
 - i. Progress and Community Associations plan and achieve their annual priorities

Future Direction One - Progressive well-resourced communities

6. Community celebrations build the areas identity
 - i. Cultural, artistic and seasonal produce celebrations engage and build understanding of the community and its value proposition
 - iii. New and creative ideas grow event attendance numbers

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The following risks have been identified in accordance with the Council's adopted Risk Management Framework and Risk Matrix.

There exists a medium risk of reputational damage resulting from community should grants not be assessed and awarded using the criteria set out in the policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council provides a budget allocation for Community Assistance Grants in its Annual Operational Budget.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2024-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

Elected members were presented with the draft Community Assistance Grant Policy for discussion at the 8 April 2025 Council Workshop.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Support the motion as presented; or
2. Support the motion with amendment; or
3. Not support the motion.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The policy was last reviewed in 2021; proposed changes are in red on the document and track changes are included.

Changes are administrative in nature.

The policy has been converted to the current policy template.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the amended GTC-11 Community Assistance Policy.

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DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE & STRATEGY

Nil

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12 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

12.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT - MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

REPORT DATE: 17 April 2025

FILE NO: 14.11, 14.15

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser		
<i>March</i>	18	Met with local business
	18	Chaired Council Budget Workshop
	20	Attended George Town Chamber of Commerce – Annual General Meeting
	25	Chaired Council Workshop
	25	Chaired Ordinary Council Meeting
	26	Attended George Town Futures Expo (BBAMZ)
	26	Attended NTDC meeting
	26	Tamar FM Radio Interview
	28	Attended LGAT Mayors Psychological Safety
	31	Attended Media Event NTDC Regional Priorities
<i>April</i>	2	Attended LGAT General Meeting
	3	Attended LGAT Mayors & Deputy Mayors Workshop
	4	Attended the Opening of the 2025 Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize
	7	Attended NTDC Board Meeting
	8	Chaired Council Workshop
	9	Tamar FM Interview
	10	Attended BBA Tree Planting Day
	11	Met with local resident re prospective business
	15	Met with Federal Member for Bass
	15	Chaired Council Workshop
Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson		
<i>March</i>	25	Attended Council Workshop and Ordinary Council meeting
<i>April</i>	4	Attended Mountain of Voices at Port Dalrymple High School
	8	Attended Council Workshop
	15	Attended Council Workshop
Cr Jason Orr		
<i>March</i>	26	NEB Hub – George Town Futures Expo
	29	Landcare Tas Networking Day – Lilydale
	30	Lulworth Community Association AGM
<i>April</i>	1	Friends of Low Head Penguin Colony Committee Meeting

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	4	Opening of the 2025 Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize
	15	FoLHPC meeting
	17	“Have Your Say” Satisfaction Survey distribution
	19	Weymouth Easter Market

OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION

That the information report from the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor/s on Matters of Involvement be received and the information noted.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

13 PETITIONS

Nil.

14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil.

15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Questions Taken on Notice from 25 March Ordinary Council Meeting

Cr Barwick

- Q1. Advised that she had not received an update on the commemoration of the late Peter Cox.

Officers have contacted Crown in relation to the installation of a seat and officially re-naming the site in Tamar Avenue the 'Peter Cox Reserve'. The Crown has responded regarding the seat which requires crown approval and a works application. However, they have not responded regarding renaming the site which is quite a lengthy process as the naming of a reserve needs to go through Placenames Tasmania.

Due to the complexities associated with Tamar Avenue, a Council owned site might be more suitable.

- Q2. Advised that there is a person living in a bus and requested an update.

The Chair advised due to the personal nature of the request a response will not be included in the minutes but provided during a workshop.

- Q3. Cr Barwick requested a copy of Council's Drug and Alcohol Policy?

The Chair advised that a copy will be provided. Completed.

Cr Lowe

- Q1. Will this Council before considering any advancements of Stage 2 and Stage 3 of the Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre hold community consultations and a community meeting to get the feedback of the community for any further stages?

Council will conduct community consultation for future stages.

16 CLOSED MEETING

16.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING

That Council move into closed meeting at ...pm to discuss the following items:

Agenda Item 1.2 Minutes of the Closed Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 March 2025

As per the provisions of Regulation 34(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.3 Stormwater Drainage Plan for Beechford

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(i) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

REQUIRES ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

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17 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed atpm.

**Cr Greg Kieser
MAYOR**