

## **2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**

<b>2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 25 MARCH 2025.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2.1.1 2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting - Unconfirmed Minutes - Public</b>	
<b>Copy.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>9.1 POLICY - PRIVATE SIGNAGE ON COUNCIL LAND.....</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>9.1.1 Private Signage On Council Land Policy.....</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>9.1.2 Private Signage On Council Land Draft Proceedure.....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>9.1.3 Submissions Received To Exhibition Of Previous Draft.....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>10.1 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE POLICY.....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>10.1.1 GTC C 11 Draft Community Assistance Policy.....</b>	<b>71</b>



## GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting  
held on **Tuesday 25 March 2025**

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

commenced 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.*

Rick Dunn  
**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>1 PRESENT.....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1 Apologies And Leave Of Absence.....	5
1.2 In Attendance.....	5
<b>2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 Ordinary Council Meeting Held 25 February 2025.....	6
<b>3 LATE ITEMS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1 Public Question Time Procedure.....	8
5.2 Public Questions On Notice.....	9
5.3 Public Question Time .....	10
5.4 Response To Questions From Previous Public Question Time .....	21
<b>6 ACTING GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>7 PLANNING AUTHORITY .....</b>	<b>23</b>
7.1 DA2024/26 - 32-42 Macquarie Street, 7 Bathurst Street, Charles Robbins Place And Adjoining Road Reserves, George Town - Mixed Use Development.....	23
<b>8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER .....</b>	<b>31</b>
8.1 Council Workshop February And March 2025.....	31
8.2 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2025 Federal Election Funding Priorities .....	32
8.3 Local Government Regulations And Local Government Meeting Procedures Regulations Remake 2025.....	33
8.4 Local Government Electoral Bill - Discussion Paper .....	34
8.5 Rescinding Of Obsolete Motions And Removal Of Motions From Outstanding Motions Register.....	36
8.6 LGAT General Meeting 2 April 2025 - Consideration Of Motions .....	37
<b>9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>38</b>
9.1 Crown Land Agreement - Pipers River Recreation Ground.....	38

---

Page | 2

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

<b>10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>10.1 George Town Council Audit Panel Committee Confirmed Minutes 11         December 2024 .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>10.2 Community Assistance Grants Round 2.....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>10.3 George Town Health And Wellbeing Committee Appointment.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>10.4 Loan Council Allocation For 2025/2026.....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE &amp; STRATEGY .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>12 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>12.1 Matters Of Involvement - Mayor, Deputy Mayor And Councillors .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>13 PETITIONS.....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>13.1 Petition - George Town Communities Save Our Pool .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE .....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>16 CLOSED MEETING.....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>16.1 Into Closed Meeting.....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>17 CLOSURE .....</b>	<b>52</b>

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**Meeting Commenced 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.*

---

Page | 4

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**1 PRESENT**

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

**1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

General Manager - Mr S Power  
Director Infrastructure & Development - Mr A McCarthy

**1.2 IN ATTENDANCE**

Acting General Manager - Mr R Dunn  
Director Corporate & Community - Mrs C Hyde  
Senior Executive Support and Governance Officer - Ms L Dickenson  
Administration Officer - Governance - Ms C Roach

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 25 FEBRUARY 2025**

**Minute No. 27/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 25 February 2025 numbered 012/25 to 021/25 as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Barwick, Cr Archer and Cr Lowe  
Abstained: Cr Archer and Cr Lowe

CARRIED 6 / 3

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Page | 6

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**3 LATE ITEMS**

Nil.

---

Page | 7

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

## **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cr Ashley and Mayor Kieser declared an interest in Agenda item 10.2 as members of Rotary and advised they will not be leaving the meeting.

## **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.*

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

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Nil.

---

Page | 9

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**5.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Unofficially commenced at: 1.16 pm

Formally commenced at: 1.32 pm

Concluded at: 2.06 pm

**Mr M. Judd**

**Preamble**

I have been following the swimming pool issue with some interest via social media and am shocked at the amount of redaction that the released pool condition assessment has been subject to. In light of this I feel that myself and the greater rate paying residents of this community require the following questions answered.

- Q1. On completion of the pool condition assessment was it supplied to all of our elected councillors?
- Q2. If indeed it was supplied then when was this action taken, date please?
- 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?
- 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.
- Q5. At any stage during the consultation and design stage were there conceptual drawing done which included the existing 25 metre outdoor pool?
- 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 features from the existing infrastructure?
- Q7. When was the decision made to demolish the original 25 metre outdoor pool?
- Q8. How was this decision reached and by what means?
- Q9. Was this decision voted on by elected Councillors or was the decision made by senior management?
- Q10. Was the key factor in reaching this decision orchestrated from the pool condition assessment?
- Q11. If so, then can that key information be made public?

*The Chair advised that Mr Judd's questions are taken on notice and a written response will be provided.*

---

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**Mrs D. Rainbow, George Town**

Preamble

Ms Rainbow advised that she has lived in George Town for 43 years next to this land and have been to Council numerous times. Action has occurred previously. Currently the land has 1.5 metre high blackberries which poses a risk i.e. snakes.

Q1. What is the view or policy held by Council on residential land that has not been developed or maintained?

*The Chair advised that if it is private land we defer to the private landowner to maintain that land. Council at the periodically beginning of this year i.e. December have issued fire abatement notices. Council sends the notice in bulk to owners of vacant block of land. Owners have a period of 4 weeks to respond to abatement notice, and mow their block of land. If they do not clear their block during this time period, Council will organise an independent contractor to mow/slash the land and Council will add that service cost to their rates charge in the next cycle.*

Mrs Rainbow advised that over the past twelve months it hasn't been done.

*The Chair requested that Mrs Rainbow provide Council with the details, Council will follow up and monitor for abatement notices.*

**Mrs L. Wootton, Low Head**

Preamble

**Aquatic Centre Community Information Sessions**

When I first looked at the advertisement intending to book for the Community Information Sessions to be held on Wednesday 19th March, it was only a few days after it was posted (I think about 8th March), I found all four sessions were full.

However, about a week later I looked at it again and found two sessions had vacancies, so I booked for the inconvenient 6 pm slot. There were only 5 other people at that session.

I understand from another resident there was only three at one of the Thursday meetings.

I attended a meeting on the Thursday, I wonder how many others were put off attending from their first look at the site.

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

*The Chair thanked Mrs Wootton for her question. When Council set up the sessions, it was not anticipated individuals booking every seat in the session (booking each 10 seats). Council went through the process of contacting this person who booked the session advising that it was available for you and one other and then those seats were made available. The first day attendance was full, second day unsure of.*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

*Through the Chair, the General Manager advised that the sessions were fully booked.*

*The question was taken on notice on the exact numbers.*

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

*The Chair advised that they were expensive, as Council flew down two main advisers to participate in the sessions.*

*The question was taken on notice.*

Q3. Wouldn't it have been more cost effective to have had one, or possibly two meetings (day and night), where a greater number of people could have attended and heard what others had to say and saved the presenters having to repeat everything so many times?

*The Chair advised that it was a way of making effective communication both to and from the participants. There is a relationship that as the numbers go up, you have, as I have seen at the Roadshows, the more attendees it tends to be a one-way exchange. The community telling you what they want versus an opportunity to respectfully and thoughtfully responded and provide them with information. Council takes advice from experts which we recruit for these projects and that was their advice. It worked overall very well, with a number of people contacting me regarding those session thanking for the quality of the dialogue.*

**Mr G. Neilsen, George Town**

Q1. Mayor the community in the main I believe wants this magnificent new Aquatic Centre (maybe with some modifications) but it does not have to be at the expense of the much loved and utilised 25 m outdoor pool.

I ask this question assuming that Council administration entered into negotiations or arrangements with architects and construction companies before elected members voted to decommission and demolish the entire swimming pool complex.

We state categorically that it is our belief that only elected members as trustees of all assets owned by a community or ratepayers have the authority (unless delegated to management) to buy, sell, build, or dispose of assets owned by ratepayers of a community.

We i.e. Fiona Hills, Lorraine Wootten and I will gladly withdraw our Appeal if Council decides to modify its planned footprint of the new centre and keep the 25 m pool.

We will be asking the Tribunal to order that this matter returns to Council as some aspects of the proposal are Prohibited in an Open Space Zone.

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

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

lead to the decommissioning and destroying of all of the Swimming Centre including the 25 m pool?

*The Chair responded that you rightly indicated you are part of a planning appeal and matters concerning the development application appeal have now been lodged, which means Council can now no longer publicly discuss this matter. It is now subject to a TASCat Hearing and Council will not take any questions on the specifics.*

Mr Neilsen asked the gallery if someone could take his questions and ask it who is not in the appeal.

*The Chair advised Mr Neilsen that he is disrupting the meeting and provided him with his first warning at 1.27 pm. The Chair advised the gallery that it does not matter who asks the question on the content. Any questions pertaining to the appeal Council cannot answer.*

A gallery member asked if we can ask a question about the pool?

*The Chair responded that you can ask a question but not specially about the planning.*

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?

*The Chair advised that Council cannot do this as it is a Deed between the Federal Government and George Town Council. The Chair stated that he would look into this and took the question on notice.*

Mr Neilsen reasked so Council cannot provide me with the Deed?

*The Chair responded that this is the preliminary advice received and the question is taken on notice.*

Mr Neilsen asked then why did you quote it on Tamar FM?

*The Chair responded that he can make a generalised assertion about a deed. Mr Neilsen is talking about the specific written document which is quite different.*

Mr Neilsen stated that you mentioned the deed and you made specific commentary about it and how it would affect the project.

*The Chair advised that the question was taken on notice and respond to you in writing.*

---

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**Mrs F. Hills**

Q1. This question is directed to Cr Mason.

*The Chair advised that the question is to be directed to the Chair.*

*Cr Archer called a Point of Order at 1.31 pm that it is correct that the question is to be directed to the Chair and that the Chair can delegate the question to whom he chooses i.e. General Manager, other staff or a Councillor.*

*The Chair advised that he chooses not to. The Chair advised Mrs Hills that the question is to be directed to himself and he chooses not to delegate the question.*

Ms Hills asked that Cr Mason had attended the majority of the community consultation meetings last week and I would like to hear his feedback in the terms of the majority of the matters raised?

*The Chair deferred the question to Cr Mason.*

*Cr Mason advised that the question about keeping the pool was relevant but not the main concern of the people present. Their main concern was that Council did not have a management plan/an operational plan when the pool is actually finished. What people misunderstood was that the therapy pool was a waste of time as we have a swimming pool at the high school. Now these are two different things. The therapy pool is 10 metres by 16.5 metres. That is the same size as the Launceston pool which caters for 100,000 people, whereas ours will cater for 7,000. The size of the pool and referred them to the pool at Oatlands and two advised they were happy with that.*

Ms Hills asked do you know how many the population of Oatlands is?

*Cr Mason advised 7,000. There may only be 1,000 people in Oatlands but it is the catchment area that they cater for.*

*The Chair advised that it is of similar size. The Chair has had detailed discussions with the Mayor and General Manager of Southern Midlands and by their words, and the swimming pool is working exactly as they had intended and has been a success.*

*Cr Mason opportunity for parents and grandparents to spend time in the pool with the young children, this can happen in the large pool as one lane is 1 metre deep and this is the lane for the learn to swim and mums and bubs. They can also spend time in the warm water or therapy pool.*

Ms Hills interrupted and asked did anyone talk about carnivals?

*Cr Mason advised that when you talk about carnivals, Council cannot build a facility to facilitate a one day event per year.*

*Ms Hills interrupted and said I am sure there is more than 1 day event.*

*Cr Mason responded that we have Lilydale, Exeter, Beaconsfield, Scottsdale, St Pats that come to our pool when they are closer to Launceston. Why are they coming here?*

Ms Hills stated that we should be happy that they coming here to spend their money?

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

*The Mayor advised that there are 11 group bookings a year. There are 11 days that you have swimming carnivals in a year.*

Q2. *After last week's community consultation meetings, what is the initial consensus by Council of the community support in the health and wellbeing centre and retraining the current pool?*

The Chair advised that Council will have to wait for feedback?

Ms Hills asked did you go to any of the meetings?

*The Chair advised that he specifically chose not to attend but some of the other councillors did and staff were there. They collated feedback and that anecdotally, it would appear that there was overwhelmingly support for the plan.*

Ms Hills stated that you should have listened to my petition and had a community meeting and you would have found out what the community wanted.

*The Chair tried to continue.*

Ms Hills interjected and asked what is happening with my petition?

*The Chair requested Ms Hills to let him answer the question. The Chair responded that the overwhelming feedback that he had received, its anecdotal, and he has not received a collated report for a Council officer who's attending, heard that people are happy with the plan. Those who attended those sessions had genuine questions and they received answers. Those who are passionately invested in keeping the outdoor pool hear you, love the passion and that those people came with opinions left with the same opinions.*

Ms Hills responded (with profanity).

*The Chair issued Ms Hills with her first, second and third warning at 1.38 pm. This is a professional environment.*

**Mrs D. Rainbow**

Q1. When are you going to adopt the rules that are laid down in the government for the protection and treatment of women?

*The Chair advised that Council follows the regulations by the Government and includes Code of Conduct and behaviour conduct.*

**Ms C. Crawford-Coates**

*The Chair did not accept her question advising that this is a highly person question and it is private. Personal circumstances cannot be commented on for the protection of all.*



**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

- Q1. Ms Crawford-Coats 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?

*The Chair advised that this question is taken on notice as there is a planning appeal underway.*

- Q2. My other issue is with footpaths. I have done a lot of snaps and solves. I have spoke to members in the Council and apparently we don't have enough funding, when will we be getting the funding for this? I push my pram with my daughter in it every day, and every day I nearly tip her out of it at some point.

*The Chair advised that this is correct and thank you for your question. Council has an extensive network of footpaths, some new, some very dated. In our operational budget every year Council sets a nominated value that is put towards maintenance and the upgrading of those footpaths. Some years that money is used entirely for regrinding and levelling where there are tree roots that have moved the slabs. Other years we may replace sections. Council looks for outside assistance and funding for the maintenance and expansion of paths. Recently the Federal Member for Bass, Bridget Archer, in an election commitment of approx. \$600,000 for North Tamar, The Strand and Little Street will get a footpath. This is assuming its matched or that the Liberal Party wins the election. Council's budget is for approx. 150 metres a year.*

Ms Crawford-Coates asked if the footpath Pipe Clay Bay will only be done if this if she is re-elected?

*The Chair advised yes.*

Ms Crawford-Coates stated that Council can do it over at the redevelopment are in Friend Street.

*The Chair advised that the development, in circumstances, have to install the infrastructure, cross service pavement footpaths as part of their development application. So it is funded privately by the developer.*

*Ms Crawford-Coates stated like Housing has funded.*

*The Chair answered yes.*

Ms Crawford-Coates reiterated that the footpaths are really bad and that I push my daughter out of her pram and that they are not going to get fixed without the funding.

*The Chair commented and thanked her for letting Council know. The Snap and Send would be better if you submit it to Council. Council put the request into our works schedule and if Council has the money, we do it sometimes straight away. Otherwise Council waits.*

Ms Crawford-Coates advised that she submitted the photo over a year ago and is not fixed. She has taken photos of it today and requested the Chair or Councillors to look at the footpath as it is a liability.

*The Chair advised to fill in a service request online. There was an issue with the customer service request system and requested that she resubmit this request and an initial assessment will be made.*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

*Ms Crawford-Coates advised that she resubmitted the request and had received feedback saying that there was no funding.*

*The Chair advised that Council is entering into the next financial year which means funding. Council can then reassess and prioritise all the service requests that come in. It cannot be guaranteed.*

**Mr L. Brown, George Town**

Q1. It states in one of the documents that there is considerable leakage in the current pool. What is classified as considerable leakage?

*The Chair advised that he didn't think that was actually published in the engineering report but will relate a discussion he had on the pool. A Council Officer words stated; and Cr Orr and myself had an underwater inspection of the pool; the pool does leak considerably. There is a clay base underneath the pool and when you fill it up in the first 24 hours, a third of the volume of the pool leaks straight out. Overtime, we suspect the clay underneath the pool hydrates and this sort of plugs the leaks. Council had TasWater, who had to fix a line that traversed underneath the pool and the feedback was when they cut the trench, there was significant volume of water in it. Council adds water to the pool constantly.*

Mr Brown asked at what rate does Council add water to the pool?

*The Chair advised that he could not answer that question.*

Mr Brown stated that this then adds to the cost?

*The Chair advised that this is part of it. The pool was designed for a lifespan of 50 years. So when the original members of this community did this on Sundays, weekends with their own equipment and not necessarily civil engineers or experts, good people of this community got together.*

*The Chair issued a second warning at 1.48 pm.*

*The Chair continued the lifespan was intended to be 50 years, now the pool is 40 years old, so the feedback received to bring the pool up to today's standard extending its life, is almost equivalent to the cost of building a new pool. So the return on the investment for the community in doing that is negligible.*

*Mr Brown continued that from what I understand, that pool*

*The Chair issued Mrs Rainbow a first warning at 1.50 pm.*

Mr Brown continued that with that the current pool will go to make way for the new complex.

*The Chair advised that the existing pool will be demolished and the plan is to build undercover facility and Stage 2 and 3 an outdoor kids water play area and an external pool. Stage 2 and 3 are unfunded and Council needs to have success with the State or Federal government or private i.e. Bell Bay to provide Council with the funding. If Council had to raise funds through rates, Council would have an unhappy community.*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

Mr Brown followed up with another question. With an indoor pool .George Town has a lot of asthmatics, so how is that going to react with the chlorine and the acids going into the pool with those asthmatics?

*The Chair advised that he is not an expert but recently Councillors and himself undertook a tour under the auspices of one of consultants Council have used to visit five different facilities in Victoria. These are the equivalents of what Council is building a blended Health and Wellbeing Centre with health facilities and aquatic facilities. At no stage was that issue raised. The air conditioning and filtration appeared to be very effective.*

**Ms M. Butler, George Town**

Q1. Ms Butler said that this is a statement. Mrs Wootten was standing up here and putting her heart on the line, but when she was talking about the pool you sat and a Councillor laughed. Next a young woman came up here and spoke about the pool and was reduced to tears. She toughened up and was pulled back down again. So the next time she spoke she lost it and the police were called. Mr G. Neilsen had done his homework and you must have known that he would ask a question.

*The Chair said yes.*

Ms Butler continued and said that you could not answer his question. He speaks up more than what a lot of others do. Ms Butler also stated that she could not hear Councillors speak.

*The Chair said that there is a question. The Chair understands that this looks like a confronting process and one of the frustrations in local government is that Council must abide by a set of operating rules and set of standards. Simply the rules must be abide by. The Chair continued that he understood that you see that it is all the Chair, but he is the only appointed spokesman for the Council, therefore the only one who answers the questions. He may occasionally choose to direct a question to another Councillor. The Chair stated that he tries to make everyone understand these rules and there is a copy of the policy on the gallery's chair.*

Ms Butler continued and stated that she sees a broken woman by the man in front.

*The Chair did not accept this. The Chair advised Ms Butler to take a seat.*

**Ms C. Crawford-Coates**

Q. There was a report done a few years ago that was around mental health, drugs and housing. What is Council going to do to fix this issues in our town?

*The Chair thanked Ms Crawford-Coates for her question. A lot of times people characterise local government as roads, rates and rubbish and to a certain extent they are still the core of what local government does. Local Governments step into these void to try to deal with these things, but acknowledge that Council are under-equipped for this. Council does not have the operating expenses or the expertise in these areas. So Council fosters*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

*partnerships with the best available agencies to assist i.e. Laurel House; Royal Flying Doctors Service; Neighbourhood House. Council simply defer to the experts who hold that responsibility. There is 50 people approximately in the whole of the George Town Council organisation who are responsible for emptying the bins, repair the roads, front counter and it is very tight for a small organisation with a small operating budget.*

Why couldn't you put our fliers? To have more organisations to come here to support the community?

*The Chair advised that Council invites them to Council and to speak with them face to face.*

Ms Crawford-Coates advised that there is barely been anyone for people who suffer from mental health, especially the people that have suffered through suicide.

*The Chair responded that this is a terrible problem and Council is definitely not the best people to deal with this. Council does fund mental first aid courses for our community and volunteer organisations so that they are aware and have the skills to handle situations. This is the limit and our capacity.*

Ms Crawford-Coates asked why can't Council ask people to come down here? My family has suffered from suicide in our family and there is barely any support here.

*The Chair advised that Council is constantly meeting with organisations. Council advocates for our community as well as Vincent de Paul. They are also incredibly resource constrained. The problem is bigger than the budgets allowed. Council is open to feedback.*

**Mr G. Neilsen**

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.

*The Chair advised that there is an appeal underway and I cannot answer. As I mentioned clearly in my response it was related to a discussion with a conversation with a Council Officer who is not a technical specialist. These are rough parameters of an informal discussion. Council refers to the engineer's advice.*

When will you be releasing the unredacted report?

*The Chair responded that Council will not be releasing the unredacted report because the authors have specifically prohibited us from doing so. However, Council will release a report for public consumption.*

Did you leave that unredacted report on my doorstep? Do you know who did? Do you have any objection if I release the report?

*Through the Chair to the Acting General Manager. The Acting General Manager advised that you have made the Right to Information request and the process is still active subject to your requested review. Council is assessing this at the moment. How you came to find the report is a matter for yourself. Council will go through the Right to Information process as is required under the Act.*

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**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

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

*The Chair advised Mr Neilsen that the question will be taken on notice. Council requires to seek advice.*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**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.")*

Nil.

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**6 ACTING 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.



Rick Dunn  
**ACTING 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.

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**7 PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**7.1 DA2024/26 - 32-42 MACQUARIE STREET, 7 BATHURST STREET, CHARLES ROBBINS PLACE AND ADJOINING ROAD RESERVES, GEORGE TOWN - MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Senior Town Planner - Mr J. Simons  
Town Planner - Mr A. Bowles

**REPORT DATE:** 11 March 2025

**FILE NO:** DA 2024/26

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*The Senior Planner and Planner entered the meeting at 2.09 pm.*

**Minute No. 28/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris  
Seconded: Cr Lowe

That the application for use and development, Mixed Use Development - Visitor Accommodation (Serviced Apartments, Café & Bar), Residential (Multiple Dwellings x 13) & General Retail and Hire (Commercial Shops) - Demolition and Redevelopment at 32-42 Macquarie Street, 7 Bathurst Street, Charles Robbins Place and adjoining road reserves, George Town (CT's 47304/16, 226116/1, 124582/1, 124582/2, 124582/3, 124582/4, 156829/1, 156829/2, 156829/3 & 142619/2) be **APPROVED** subject to the following conditions:

**1. ENDORSED PLANS**

The use and/or development must be carried out as shown on the endorsed plans and described in the endorsed documents:

- a. Architeria Architects, Drawing No 2348, Sheet A0.00, A0.01, A0.02, A0.03, A0.04, A0.05, A1.01, A1.02, A1.03, A1.04, A2.01, A2.02, A2.10, A2.11, A2.12,
- b. G2 Urban Planning, Submission to George Town Council.
- c. G2 Urban Planning, Letter, dated 13 August 2024.
- d. Midson Traffic Pty Ltd, Traffic Impact Assessment, dated September 2024.
- e. Midson Traffic Pty Ltd, Letter-Response to Council RFI, dated 17September 2024.
- f. ECTM Consulting, Operational Waste Management Plan, dated March 2024.

---

Page | 23

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

Unless provided for otherwise by the conditions below, to the satisfaction of the Council, any other proposed development and/or use will require a separate application to and assessment by the Council.

**2. SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING PLANS**

Prior to the commencement of works, detailed engineering drawings and specifications must be submitted for an 'Assessment of Public Works' to the satisfaction of Council's Director Infrastructure and Development. Such drawings and specifications must include the following:

- a. all infrastructure works required to be undertaken in the public road reserve shown on the endorsed plans and specifications or otherwise specified by the conditions below, including:
  - i. Crossovers and reticulated drainage infrastructure;
  - ii. Footpaths and landscaping;
  - iii. Kerb and channel;
  - iv. All necessary line marking and traffic signage;
  - v. Reticulated water and sewage;
  - vi. Electricity infrastructure;
  - vii. Communications infrastructure.
- b. all new infrastructure is to be fully integrated with existing infrastructure networks within reasonable distance of the development, including:
  - i. The footpaths at each end of the development and pram ramps;
  - ii. Kerb & channel;
  - iii. Road junctions & intersections.
- c. The existing asphalt thresholds currently providing access to the car park of 40-42 Macquarie Street are to be removed and the pedestrian footpath reinstated, using pavers colour matched to the existing pavers on Macquarie Street. The Crossovers are to be removed and reinstated with concrete kerb and channel.
- d. Paving is to be extended from the kerb to the building line for the full length of Macquarie Street and to the existing southern extent of paving on Bathurst Street, removing sections of concrete and providing a consistent surface finish.
- e. All redundant crossovers on Bathurst Street are to be removed, including sections of trafficable kerb, and the footpath reinstated with standard kerb and channel, with a minimum width of 2.5m (as existing) between the building line and the back of the kerb.
- f. Side entry pits are to be installed on Bathurst Street to replace existing entry points to the reticulated storm water system.
- g. Beyond the extent of the existing pavers on Bathurst Street the footpath is to be reinstated with a concrete footpath, up to the south edge of Charles Robbins Place.
- h. A kerb extension is to be included on Bathurst Street, for a length of 20m, as illustrated in page 73 of the George Town Structure Plan 2021, widening the footpath to a minimum width of 5m (to the edge of the vehicle lane) and is to include provision for 3 street trees. The extended section is to be positioned

---

Page | 24

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

such that it does not interfere with any existing access on the eastern side of the road.

- i. An additional street tree is to be provided on the Macquarie Street/Bathurst Street corner, outside of the influence of the building awning and ensuring safe site distances at the intersection remain unobstructed.
- j. The existing pedestrian/pram ramp crossing Bathurst Street is to be reorientated to ensure the centreline is orientated towards the intended path of travel in accordance with Tasmanian Standard Drawing TSD R18-v3.
- k. A minimum of 4 parking spaces are to be retained on Bathurst Street, which are to be reconfigured and clearly line marked.
- l. The crossover accessing Charles Robbins Place is to be upgraded in accordance with the Tasmanian Standard Drawing TSD R09-v3, with a minimum width of 6m, with 1m wings on each side, to allow for two way traffic, but is to maintain the appearance of a private driveway. The finished surface of the threshold is to be visually distinct from the finished surface of both the pedestrian footpath and Bathurst Street road surface.
- m. A "pedestrian priority" sign is to be erected at the access to the public section of Charles Robbins Place. A designated pedestrian walkway with minimum width of 1.5m is to be provided on Charles Robbins Place, clearly delineated from parking and vehicle carriageways by curbing, line marking, materials or other clear means.
- n. A 10 km/h speed limit sign and a "Resident and Service Vehicle Access Only" sign is to be installed at the junction of the public and private section of Charles Robbins Place to ensure a low speed environment and minimise public entry.
- o. Any traffic calming management measures required in accordance with the endorsed Traffic Impact Assessment;
- p. Any stormwater infrastructure required in accordance with Condition 3 below.

### **3. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prior to the commencement of works a detailed stormwater management plan is to be submitted to the satisfaction of Council's Director Infrastructure and Development. The plan is to:

- a. Include modelling and design drawings for the minor drainage system, based on a peak flow in a 5% AEP rain event, assuming a 100% impervious surface.
- b. Consider the entire development site as well as the existing downstream drainage network at a reasonable distance.
- c. Assess pre- and post-development runoff volumes.
- d. Identify and address any potential impacts on the existing downstream system.
- e. If post-development runoff exceeds pre-development levels, include adequate onsite stormwater detention to mitigate the impact. This may include an underground detention system or other suitable measures and must be accompanied by calculations demonstrating the adequacy.
- f. Ensure that the rate of outflow from the detention system into the existing stormwater infrastructure does not exceed the pre-development discharge rate.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

- g. Consider the necessary point in construction where the stormwater and detention system must be operational to ensure adequate capacity to drain the site during construction.
- h. All stormwater management measures must comply with Council requirements and best practice engineering standards.

**4. LANDSCAPING PLAN**

Prior to the commencement of works a landscaping plan is to be submitted to the satisfaction of Council's Director Infrastructure and Development. The landscaping plan is to include:

- a) The species and location of a minimum of five feature trees to be planted within the property boundary on the Bathurst Street frontage (generally as depicted on Drawing A2348-A1.01).
- b) The species and location of one street tree on the corner of Bathurst Street and Macquarie Street, located to ensure safe sight distances are maintained and outside the influence of the building awning.
- c) The species and location of three street trees located within the kerb extension identified in Condition 2.h) above.

Prior to the commencement of use all landscaping is to be installed in accordance with the approved landscaping plan, using advanced stock with minimum height of 2.5m, and to the satisfaction of Council's Director Infrastructure and Development.

Notwithstanding the above, at the discretion of Council's Director Infrastructure and Development, Council may accept a bond or contribution to allow the planting to occur at the most opportune time of the year to ensure survival of the vegetation.

All care is to be taken to protect and ensure the survival of the landscaping identified on the plan and any fatalities of trees within the private property are to be replaced by the land manager as per the approved plan.

**5. TASWATER**

The development must be in accordance with the Submission to Planning Authority Notice issued by TasWater (TWDA 2024/00470-GTC attached).

**6. CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prior to the commencement of works a construction environmental management plan is to be submitted to the satisfaction of the Director Infrastructure and Development. The plan is to include plans and procedures for the management of:

- a) dust – including the management of asbestos;
- b) erosion, including stabilisation of exposed soils within reshaped drains;
- c) soil and water management to minimise discharge of polluted or sediment laden runoff directly or indirectly into Council's drains and watercourses; and
- d) construction noise.

The plan is also to include a plan and procedure for receiving and addressing complaints from surrounding landowners. Once approved, all works are to be undertaken in accordance with the approved soil and water management plan,

**7. ROAD AND PEDESTRIAN MANAGEMENT PLAN**

---

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

Prior to the commencement of use a road and pedestrian management plan is to be submitted demonstrating how disruption to vehicle and pedestrian movements will be minimised, via the timing of works within the road reserve and implementation of protection devices to allow ongoing use of public infrastructure during the extended construction period.

Once approved, works must be undertaken in accordance with the Road and Pedestrian Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Director Infrastructure and Development.

**8. NO POLLUTED RUNOFF**

No polluted and/or sediment laden runoff must be discharged directly or indirectly into Council's drains, watercourses or the foreshore during and after development.

**9. DAMAGE TO PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

Any damage to public infrastructure shall be repaired at the owner's cost. If any repairs are necessary, they will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements and to the satisfaction of the Director Infrastructure and Development.

**10. AWNING AND APPURTENANCES**

Prior to the commencement of use the landowner is to enter into a binding agreement with Council ensuring that the building owner will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of all building awnings, raised garden beds and any other appurtenance extending into the public road reserve and for maintaining liability insurance covering a minimum of \$20 million extending to awnings and appurtenances.

**11. COMPLETION OF WORKS / COMMENCEMENT OF USE**

Prior to commencement of use all civil works on the Macquarie Street and Bathurst Street Road Reserves are to be completed in accordance with the endorsed plans and conditions above.

Commencement of the residential component of the use is not contingent on completion of the commercial component, and vice versa.

**12. SCREENING DURING CONSTRUCTION**

During demolition and construction, the perimeter of the site is to be screened with low transparency mesh construction screening, or fencing to minimise public views into the site, except where required otherwise for access and/or safety. Screening is to be maintained in good condition at all times and replaced as required.

**13. STAGING**

If at any point the development is to be staged, a staging plan must be submitted to the satisfaction of Council's General Manager. The plan is to:

- a) Confirm the staging of the development and include estimated timeframes;
- b) Include provisions to visually screen the site with screening mesh, should works cease for any period exceeding 1 month.
- c) Include provisions to rehabilitate the site and erect permanent screening fencing, should construction not commence within a reasonable timeframe of demolition.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

Under no circumstances is the development to be abandoned for any period of time without adequate management of the visual appearance of the site in accordance with the approved staging plan.

**Permit Notes**

1. This permit was issued based on the proposal documents submitted for DA 2024/26. You should contact Council with any other use or development, as it may require the separate approval of Council. Council's planning staff can be contacted on 6382 8800.
2. This permit does not imply that any other approval required under any other by-law, covenant or legislation has been granted. The following additional approvals from Council may be required before construction commences:
  - a) Plumbing approval
  - b) Building approval
  - c) Approval to undertake works in the Council road reserve.
  - d) Approval to connect to the reticulated stormwater network.

All enquiries should be directed to Council's Permit Authority, via 6382 8800.

3. It is the developer's responsibility to make sure they have the proper consents of all landowners prior to undertaking any work on land not owned by the developer, including Council's Road Reserve and the privately owned section of Charles Robbins Place.
4. If required by a Building Surveyor, an application to amalgamate the subject titles must be submitted prior to the commencement of works. It is strongly recommended that you discuss amalgamation with your building surveyor early, to minimise delays, should further approvals be required.
5. The buildings to be demolished are known to contain asbestos. Removal of asbestos must be undertaken by a licensed asbestos removalist in accordance with the *Work Health Safety Act 2012* and the *Work Health Safety Regulations 2022*. It is the responsibility of the persons conducting a business or undertaking to ensure asbestos is managed safely.
6. Based on the information provided and the size of the proposed development, there are likely to be impacts on TasNetworks' operations.

It is recommended that the customer or their electrician submit an application via TasNetwork's [website portal](#) to establish an electricity supply connection to support this development.

Alternatively, it is also recommended that you contact TasNetworks Early Engagement team at [early.engagement@tasnetworks.com.au](mailto:early.engagement@tasnetworks.com.au) at your earliest convenience to discuss this development further.
7. The location of mailboxes in Charles Robbins Place should be discussed with Australia Post. A common mailbox may be required to be installed in a site that is directly accessible from a public road.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

8. The proposal relies on the use of street parking and other public parking. Council has a prerogative to manage public parking, such that it is available to all businesses and patrons in the central area. Council reserves the right to make changes to the public parking, including the imposition of time limits on public parking spaces, removal of public parking spaces or the charging of fees to use public parking spaces. While there is currently sufficient parking in the area, Council is not responsible for ensuring parking is reserved and available specifically for the proposed business, particularly given the long durations that parking will be occupied. Although, located in a Parking Precinct, it is recommended the operators of the serviced apartments give consideration to securing a long term parking option for guests.
9. This permit takes effect after:
  - i. the 14 day appeal period expires; or
  - ii. any appeal to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal is abandoned or determined; or
  - iii. any agreement that is required by this permit pursuant to Part V of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* is executed; orany other required approvals under this or any other Act are granted
10. A planning appeal may be instituted by lodging a notice of appeal with the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Tribunal. A planning appeal may be instituted within 14 days of the date the Corporation serves notice of the decision on the applicant. For more information see the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Tribunal website [www.tascat.tas.gov.au](http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au).
11. This permit is valid for two (2) years only from the date of approval and will thereafter lapse if the development is not substantially commenced. An extension may be granted at Council's discretion if a request is received within 6 months of the expiration.
12. In accordance with the legislation, all permits issued by the permit authority are public documents. Members of the public will be able to view this permit (which includes the endorsed documents) on request, at the Council Office.
13. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they are acting in accordance with any Section 71 (Part 5) Agreement or Covenant registered to the title. These matters are not taken into account as part of an assessment against the planning scheme. A permit issued under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* does not undermine or absolve any individual from any obligation imposed by such agreements. The obligations and risks associated with Section 71 (Part 5) Agreements and Covenants should be discussed with a solicitor.
14. If any Aboriginal relics are uncovered during works:
  - a) All works are to cease within a delineated area sufficient to protect the unearthed and other possible relics from destruction,
  - b) The presence of a relic is to be reported to Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania Phone: (03) 6233 6613 or 1300 135 513 (ask for Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania) Fax: (03) 6233 5555 Email: [aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au](mailto:aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au); and
  - c) The relevant approval processes will apply with state and federal government agencies.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

15. If this development application has been subject to the advertisement process, the applicant is requested to remove any planning advertising signs from the property boundary, and to dispose of it in a thoughtful and sustainable manner.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

*The Senior Planner and Planner left the meeting at 2.18 pm.*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER**

**8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOP FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2025**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager - Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	12 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.10

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**Minute No. 29/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Orr  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That Council:

1. Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on the 25 February 2025 and 11 March 2025.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 31

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8.2 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (ALGA) 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION FUNDING PRIORITIES**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** General Manager - Mr S. Power  
**REPORT DATE:** 12 March 2025  
**FILE NO:** 15.15

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**Minute No. 30/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That Council resolves to:

1. Support the national federal election funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA); and
2. Supports and participates in the Put Our Communities First federal election campaign; and
3. Writes to the local federal member of Parliament, all known election candidates in local federal electorates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association expressing support for ALGA's federal election funding priorities being:
  - \$1.1 billion per year for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing supply
  - \$500 million per year for community infrastructure
  - \$600 million per year for safer local roads
  - \$900 million per year for increased local government emergency management capability and capacity, and
  - \$400 million per year for climate adaptation.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 32

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETING  
PROCEDURES REGULATIONS REMAKE 2025**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** General Manager - Mr S. Power  
**REPORT DATE:** 13 March 2025  
**FILE NO:** 15.28

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*Cr Harris called a Point of Order against the Chair at 2.27 pm LG(MP) R 23 (1)(a) irrelevant to the motion being discussed.*

**Minute No. 31/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Dawson  
Seconded: Cr Harris

That Council:

1. Make a submission in accordance with the Officer's response to the State Government on the Discussion Paper for remaking of two regulations:
  - Local Government Regulations; and
  - Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Archer and Cr Barwick  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 7 / 2

---

Page | 33

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL BILL - DISCUSSION PAPER**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager - Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	13 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.16
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	1. Discussion- Paper- Local- Government- Electoral- Bill [8.4.1 - 40 pages] 2. At-a-glance-two-page-summary- Local- Government- Electoral- Bill-discussion-paper [8.4.2 - 2 pages]

---

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Orr  
Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council:

1. Support the Officers Responses as presented for a submission to the consultation process on the Local Government Electoral Bill.

**Minute No. 32/25**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr Archer  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That the motion be put.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 34

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**MOTION**

Moved: Cr Orr  
Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council:

1. Support the Officers Responses as presented for a submission to the consultation process on the Local Government Electoral Bill.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Abstained: Nil

LOST 3 / 6

---

Page | 35

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8.5 RESCINDING OF OBSOLETE MOTIONS AND REMOVAL OF MOTIONS FROM  
OUTSTANDING MOTIONS REGISTER**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager - Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	13 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.12, 14.5

---

*Cr Archer left the meeting at 3:25 pm.*

**Minute No. 33/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Orr

That Council defer this item.

*Cr Archer returned to the meeting at 3:26 pm.*

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason  
and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Barwick  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 8 / 1

---

Page | 36

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**8.6 LGAT GENERAL MEETING 2 APRIL 2025 - CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager - Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	17 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	15.15

---

**Minute No. 34/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Orr  
Seconded: Cr Mason

That Council:

1. Determines that the Mayor is authorised to vote at the LGAT General Meeting 2 April 2025, in accordance with Council's strategic direction, policy and Council resolutions with due consideration of any conference debate on items listed for decision at that meeting;

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason  
and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Barwick  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 8 / 1

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**9.1 CROWN LAND AGREEMENT - PIPERS RIVER RECREATION GROUND**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Team Leader - Planning & Building Services - Ms T. Burt  
**REPORT DATE:** 19th February 2025  
**FILE NO:** 52.1

---

*The Team Leader Building & Planning entered the meeting at 3.44 pm.*

**Minute No. 35/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Dawson  
Seconded: Cr Mason

That Council:

Apply to update the lease without amendments and accepts responsibility for ongoing management of the Pipers River Recreation Ground and authorises the General Manager to sign and seal the required documentation.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

*Cr Orr requested that a map of the Pipers River Recreation ground leased area be included in the minutes.*

*The Team Leader Building & Planning left the meeting at 3.49 pm.*

---

Page | 38

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---



*Pipers River Recreation Ground*

---

Page | 39

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY**

**10.1 GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL AUDIT PANEL COMMITTEE CONFIRMED MINUTES 11 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Director – Corporate and Community – Mrs. C Hyde
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	13 March 2024
<b>FILE NO:</b>	29.11

---

*The Director Corporate and Community entered the meeting at 3.49 pm.*

**Minute No. 36/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Audit Panel meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 as an accurate record of that meeting.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 40

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**10.2 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS ROUND 2**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde  
**REPORT DATE:** 6th March 2025  
**FILE NO:** 23.2

---

**Minute No. 37/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Archer  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That Council

1. Approve the community assistance grant application of \$611.00 from the Bellingham Progress Association Inc. for the line making and pickle ball equipment.
2. Approve the community assistance grant application of \$2,000 from the George Town Junior Football Club as contribution to the purchase of players jumpers.
3. Approve the community assistance grant application of \$2,000 from the Outer Cove Creative Inc. for three art-based community workshops.
4. Approve the community assistance grant application of \$2,000 from the Rotary Club of George Town as contribution towards construction of picnic shelter at Tippogoree Hills Trail Head, Lauriston Park, subject to Council approval of the project and development application.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Harris  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 8 / 1

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**10.3 GEORGE TOWN HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Director – Corporate and Community – Mrs C Hyde
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	25 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.7
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	Nil

---

*Cr Dawson left the meeting at 3:57 pm.*  
*Cr Dawson returned to the meeting at 3:58 pm.*

**Minute No. 38/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That Council:

Appoints Cr Simone Lowe, as Councillor representative and Chair of the George Town Health and Wellbeing Committee.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Barwick  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 8 / 1

---

Page | 42

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**10.4 LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATION FOR 2025/2026**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	25 March 2025
<b>FILE NO:</b>	32.20

---

**Minute No. 39/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That Council:

1. Authorises the General Manager to advise Treasury that no further borrowings are required by George Town Council for the 2025/2026 financial year.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

*The Director Corporate and Community left the meeting at 4.04 pm.*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes

---

**11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE & STRATEGY**

Nil

---

Page | 44

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

## **12 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

### **12.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT - MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS**

**REPORT DATE:** 17 March 2025

**FILE NO:** 14.11, 14.15

<b>Mayor Cr Greg Kieser</b>		
<b>February</b>	20	Met with local residents
	24	Attended NTDC Board Meeting
	25	Chaired Council Workshop
	25	Chaired Ordinary Council meeting
	26	ABC Radio Interview
	27	George Town Swimming Pool – visit with Cr Orr
<b>March</b>	3	Chaired Progress Association meeting
	6	Met with General Manager and ReCFit Representatives
	6	Tamar FM Interview
	11	Chaired Council Workshop
	12	Attended Audit Panel meeting
	12	Met with BBAMZ and Japanese Delegates
	12	Met with local residents
	12	Attended Youth Council meeting
	13	Attended BBAMZ General Members meeting
	14	Met with Nick Duigan MP
	15	Attended George Town United Church Peace Pole
<b>Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson</b>		
<b>February</b>	25	Attended Council Workshop
	25	Attended Ordinary Council meeting
<b>March</b>	15	Attended Art Exhibition Jim Mooney Gallery
<b>Cr Jason Orr</b>		
<b>February</b>	24	TICT Northern Focus Event
	27	George Town Swimming Pool – informative visit with the Mayor
<b>March</b>	2	Swirl – informative visit
	4	Soroptimist International Women's Day Breakfast
	4	DAP/East Tamar Tourism Network Catchup
	9	Weymouth Progress Association AGM
	9	Clean Up Australia

Page | 45

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**Minute No. 40/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Barwick  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That the information report from the Mayor on Matters of Involvement be received and the information noted.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 46

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**13 PETITIONS**

**13.1 PETITION - GEORGE TOWN COMMUNITIES SAVE OUR POOL**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** General Manager - Mr S. Power  
**REPORT DATE:** 17 March 2025  
**FILE NO:** 14.15

---

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That the Petition submitted by Ms. F. Hills on the 25 February 2025 to the Mayor be received and noted.

**AMENDMENT**

Moved: Cr Barwick  
Seconded:

1. That the Petition submitted by Ms. F. Hills on the 25 February 2025 to the Mayor be received and noted.
2. That Council holds a public meeting.

*Cr Archer called a Point of Order against the Chair LG(MP) R 23(1)(c) Council can have a recommendation to support the motion with an amendment at 1.34 pm.*

*The Chair agreed with Cr Archer.*

**Minute No. 41/25**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr Dawson  
Seconded: Cr Orr

That the motion be put.

*The Chair called a recess 4.35 pm for five minutes for legislative clarification. The meeting will resume at 4.40 pm.*

---

Page | 47

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

*Cr Harris left the meeting at 4.35 pm.*

*Cr Harris returned to the meeting at 4.39 pm.*

*The Chair resumed the meeting 4.40 pm.*

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

**Minute No. 42/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That the Petition submitted by Ms. F. Hills on the 25 February 2025 to the Mayor be received and noted.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe,  
Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

*Cr Dawson left the meeting at 4.48 pm.  
Cr Dawson returned to the meeting at 4.49 pm.*

**MOTION FROM THE FLOOR**

Moved: Cr Barwick  
Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council holds a public meeting in accordance with Section 60F of the Local Government Act within 30 days on the Health and Wellbeing Centre redevelopment.

*Cr Barwick called a Point of Order against Cr Orr at 5.02 pm LG(MP)R 23(1)(c) Cr Orr had already spoken to motion.*

*The Chair did not accept the Point of Order as Cr Orr had asked a question.*

**VOTING**

For: Cr Archer, Cr Barwick and Cr Orr  
Against: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Abstained: Nil

LOST 3 / 6

**MOTION FROM THE FLOOR**

Moved: Cr Barwick  
Seconded:

That Council makes available to the public the engineers report with the redaction of the author of that report.

*Cr Archer called a Point of Order against the Chair at 5.13 pm LG(MP)R 23 (1)(c) asking if the Chair was refusing the motion?*

*Cr Dawson called a Point of Order against Cr Barwick at 5.15 pm LG(MP)R 23(1)(c) as this motion has already been before Council and considered.*

*The Chair denied the motion at 5.17 pm.*

*Cr Archer called a Point of Order against the Chair at 5.17 pm LG(MP)R 23(1).*

*The Chair denied the motion at 5.18 pm*

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE**

**Questions Taken on Notice from 25 February Ordinary Council Meeting**

Cr Barwick

- Q1. Responsible Serving of alcohol at the art exhibition on the 14 February – there was alcohol at both the Watch House and the Memorial Hall but was virtually serve yourself. Who was responsible for this? And at what cost to Council if any?

Response

Part A of Cr Barwick's question was answered, and the cost was taken on notice.

The total cost of service of alcohol at the 14 February Creative George Town Art exhibition was \$339.12. This was included in the budget for the program.

**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.

*The Chair acknowledged Cr Barwick's request.*

- 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.*

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?

*The Chair advised that he will get the General Manager to respond.*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**16 CLOSED MEETING**

**16.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING**

**Minute No. 43/25**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Lowe  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That Council move into closed meeting at 5.22 pm to discuss the following items:

**Agenda Item 16.2 Minutes of the Closed Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 February 2025**

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

**Agenda Item 16.3 George Town Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre – Early Works Package RFT 08/2024**

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

**VOTING**

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 / 0

---

Page | 51

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*

**George Town Council  
2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS  
Agenda**

**George Town Council  
2025 03 25 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Unconfirmed Minutes**

---

**17 CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.46 pm.

**Cr Greg Kieser  
MAYOR**

---

Page | 52

*These are Unconfirmed Minutes and are yet to be confirmed as true and accurate  
record of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 25 March 2025*



## PRIVATE SIGNAGE ON COUNCIL LAND

<b>Policy No.:</b>	TBC	<b>Policy type:</b>	Operational
<b>Responsibility:</b>	General Manager	<b>Policy expires:</b>	October 2028
<b>Approved by:</b>	Council	<b>Approved on:</b>	TBC
<b>Minute No.:</b>		<b>Review date:</b>	July 2028

Document History/Version Control			
Version No.	Date	Details	Comment
		New policy	

Amendment/Administrative History			
Date	Details	Comment	Authorised by
		Nil	

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

## Contents

1. OBJECTIVE
2. TYPE OF POLICY
3. SCOPE
4. DEFINITIONS
5. LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN
6. RELATED LEGISLATION
7. RISK CONSIDERATIONS
8. POLICY
9. IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW OF POLICY

### **1. OBJECTIVE**

This Policy is intended to regulate private signage on Council owned land and Council managed Roads (Council land), to ensure that public spaces remain free from signage clutter and maintain a high degree of public amenity and safety.

### **2. TYPE OF POLICY**

As per Section 9 of Policy GTC-12, this policy is categorised as an Operational Policy.

This categorisation is consistent with the definitions as stated in Policy GTC-12 which are as follows:

Council - Policies pertaining to the Governance of the Council and the activities of its elected members, including the establishment of Committees, and the government of the municipality including resident and ratepayer compliance policies and by-laws.

Operational - Policies pertaining to the operational, administrative, and internal matters of the Council, including internal governance, internal committees, and operational matters of service delivery.

### **3. SCOPE**

This policy relates to the erection of private advertising signage, community event signage, sponsorship signage and the like on Council owned and managed land and Council managed road reserves, including permanent, temporary and portable signs.

The policy does not regulate signs on private property (note: approval may still be required in accordance with the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993).

The policy does not apply to regulatory signs, street name signs or community information signs erected by or on behalf of Council or a statutory authority.

The policy does not apply to above awning signs, below awning signs, awning fascia signs, hanging signs or projecting wall signs as defined by the Tasmanian Planning Provisions when attached to a legally constructed building or awning, which may extend over Council land.

The policy does not apply to any signage program initiated and managed by Council or another entity approved by Council, which may incorporate business directories or individual private signs, intended to allow equitable access to signage opportunities, achieve design consistency and to ensure maintenance of public amenity.

The policy does not apply to private signage on Council land where the sign owner has entered into a commercial lease agreement with the Council including financial compensation at a market rate.

The policy does not relate to signage erected by Council for a public purpose or in the

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

course of undertaking any Council function, event or business activity.

The policy does not override the statutory requirement for a planning permit in accordance with the Planning Scheme and the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 or the provisions of any other Act.

The policy does not address other forms of street furniture (including café barriers) or use of public land for street dining, coin operated games or ride on toys.

#### **4. DEFINITIONS**

**Council land** – means land that is owned or managed by the Council, including Council owned premises, roads and road reserves, parks and reserves. It does not include land that is leased to a private or public entity under a commercial lease arrangement for their exclusive use.

**Sign** - means a device, structure, depiction, or the like, that is intended to give information, advertise or attract attention to a place, product, service or event.

**Portable signs** – means a sign not permanently attached to the ground or to a building or other structure and is removed on a daily basis. This includes A frame and T frame sandwich boards, banners, tear drop signs and lightweight flag signs.

**Temporary event sign** – means a sign erected for a one off or occasional event. This includes community events, charity events, car shows, school or community group recruitment drives or fundraisers, markets, and the like. May include private business events only where there is a broader public interest i.e. employment forums or expeditions.

**Fingerboard signs** - means basic signs erected at street junctions to provide key directional information for residents, visitors and emergency services about the street name and location of key destination points, for example public facilities. Also known as street blades.

**Community information signs** – means signs which communicate public information or direction signs to community facilities such as ovals, health centre, swimming pools and the like, erected by or on behalf of a Council or a statutory authority.

**Regulatory signs** – signs that provide notice of rules, laws, regulations, road signs and warning signs, erected by or on behalf of a Council or a statutory authority.

**Election sign** - means an impermanent sign identifying candidates or promoting a political party for local, state or federal government elections.

**Political Signage** - means signage erected for the purpose of conveying a political message or protest.

**Real estate sign** - means a sign erected for the purposes of advertising a parcel of land or building for sale, lease or let.

**Sponsorship Signage** – means signage erected at a sportsground or other community facility in recognition of financial or in kind support to a club or community group based at that facility.

**Non-compliant Existing Signs** – means signs which already exist prior to the effective date of this policy.

#### **5. LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

This policy aligns with:

Future Direction (1) Community pride

1/ All are valued and included

I. Taking a 'whole of community' approach to everything

2/ All communities take pride in their place

I. Developing well-designed public spaces which are attractive, safe and support the area's identity and reputation



**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

3/ A strong, recognisable, positive reputation

I. Branding our produce and products

Future Direction (2) Prosperity for all in all aspects of life

10/ Local shops and cafes thrive and respond to local and visitor needs

I. Focusing on 'Support Local; Buy Local; Employ Local'

Future direction (3) Progressive well-resourced communities

8/ Public infrastructure relevant to needs

I. Making sure the place works well through good design, safety standards asset management and ongoing maintenance

Future direction (4) Leadership and accountable governance

2/ Planning and regulatory responsibilities are undertaken fairly and openly

I. Building knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes

II. Compliance customer service standards and processes

## **6. RELATED LEGISLATION**

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.

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 3rd party signs.

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - George Town, regulates signage on all land, both private and public.

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.

George Town Council's Caretaker Period Policy (GTC-25) prohibits use of Council land for distributing electoral materials.

## **7. RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

This policy aligns with the objectives and strategies of the George Town Council Risk Management Policy and Risk Management Strategy.

A risk assessment will be undertaken on a case by case basis prior to approval of signage in accordance with the ISO Risk Management Guidelines . The risk assessment is to include, but is not limited to:

- Placement of any sign boards on footpaths do not obstruct the traffic and are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA compliant)
- That it be weighted as not to fly around during strong weather conditions.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

- An authorised person/s is in control of placing and removing the sign – (Nighttime/ weather conditions etc.)
- Any fixed sign to be erected under council's conditions. Advice or guidance should be obtained e.g. location and placement. The height of the sign as to not have anyone walk / ride into it etc.

## **8. POLICY**

George Town Council acknowledges that signs form an important part of the urban and rural environment. They fulfil a range of functions including meeting statutory, commercial and community objectives.

Council's management practices for signage will enhance the environment, preserve amenity and promote a consistent and equitable approach throughout the municipal area.

Council will at all times make public amenity, safety and accessibility a priority when considering signage on Council land.

No sign will be erected on the road reserve without the formal consent of Council or one of its delegated officers or representatives.

All privately owned signs must be covered by public liability insurance to the value of \$10 million.

The following information provides further guidance on private signs:

### **Prohibited Signs**

#### **Permanent Business Advertising Signage**

Unless specifically provided for, Council does not approve permanent business advertising signs on public land as a matter of course.

Permanent business advertising signage will only be considered in situations where a commercial lease agreement or license is issued, including financial compensation at a market value for the commercial use of public land. Such lease arrangements are at the discretion of Council. Business owners are encouraged to seek commercial relationships with private landowners for the erection of remote signage, noting that such signs remain subject to approvals under the *Land use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the *Building Act 2016*.

#### **Political Signs/Election Signs**

Council does not permit the use of Council owned / managed land for election signage associated with a Local, State or Federal Election.

Also refer to George Town Council's Caretaker Period Policy (GTC-25) with respect to use of Council land for distribution of electoral material.

Election signs may be fixed directly to the external side of a frontage fence of a private property, but must otherwise be fully contained within the property to which they relate.

Council does not permit the erection of political signs on Council land.

#### **Real Estate Signs**

Council does not permit the erection of real estate signs on Council land, unless they are being erected on behalf of Council and located on the land to which they relate. Real estate signs may be fixed directly to the external side of a frontage fence, but must otherwise be fully contained within the property to which they relate.

#### **Permitted Signs – Approval required before Placement**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

Portable Signs

Council permits the placement of portable signs related to private businesses in the Council Road reserve, provided they comply with the following:

- Must be immediately adjacent the premises to which they relate. Remotely located portable signs are not permitted.
- Must be covered by the sign owner's public liability – up to \$10 million.
- Must not unreasonably obstruct movement across a footpath, to a doorway or property access.
- Must not obstruct safe sight distances.
- Must be securely fixed or weighted down.
- Must be removed when the business is closed.
- Must not be permanently attached.
- Must not be located so as to obstruct other signage or clustered.
- Flag signs and teardrop banners are limited to two signs per premises.
- Vertical flag signs and tear drop banners are not permitted under an awning.
- Flag signs mounted on a horizontal or 45 degree pole must maintain a vertical clearance of 2000mm from the footpath surface.
- A frame and T frame signs (sandwich boards) are limited to one sign per premises and must comply with the Design Guidelines and Location Guidelines below

**Design Guidelines – A Frame & T Frame as illustrated in Figure 1 below.**

- Dimensions must conform with Figure 2 below.
- The sign is to contain no moving or spinning parts.
- The sign is to contain no offensive words or images.
- The sign shall not have reflecting or mirrored finishes (they are difficult to read and may reflect light into the eyes of drivers).
- The sign must be sufficiently weighted to ensure stability. The sign cannot be affixed to street furniture or anything else.
- All corners of the sign must be chamfered or rounded.
- Irregular shaped signs will be permitted but the size must be within the size range outlined above, and there must be no sharp edges or corners (See Figure 3 below).
- All signs less than 500mm wide must have a suitable base that provides adequate stability.

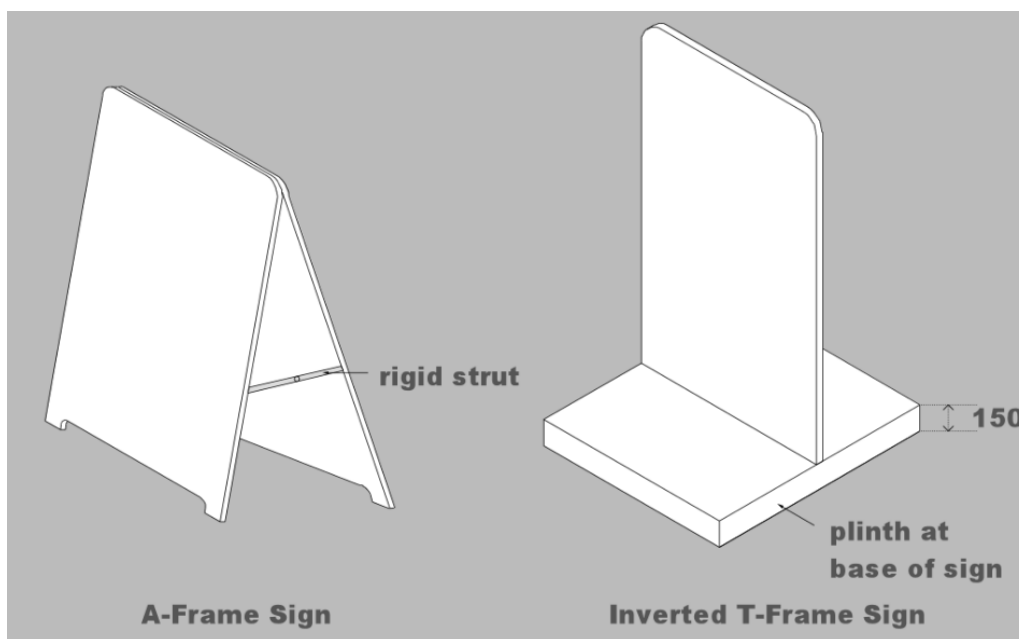


Figure 1: form of A and T Frame Signs

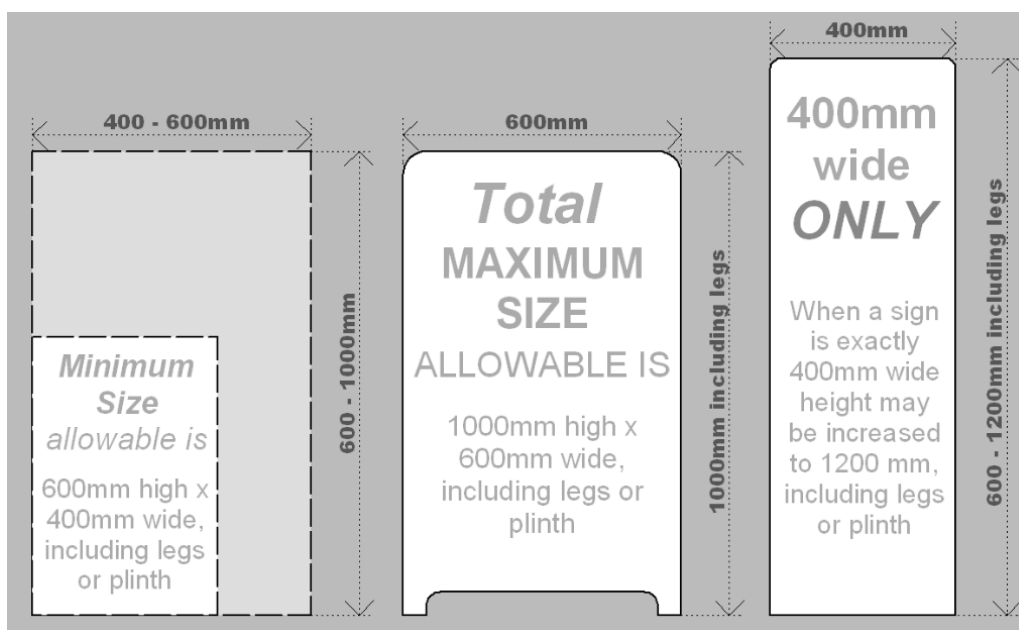


Figure 2: acceptable sign dimensions.

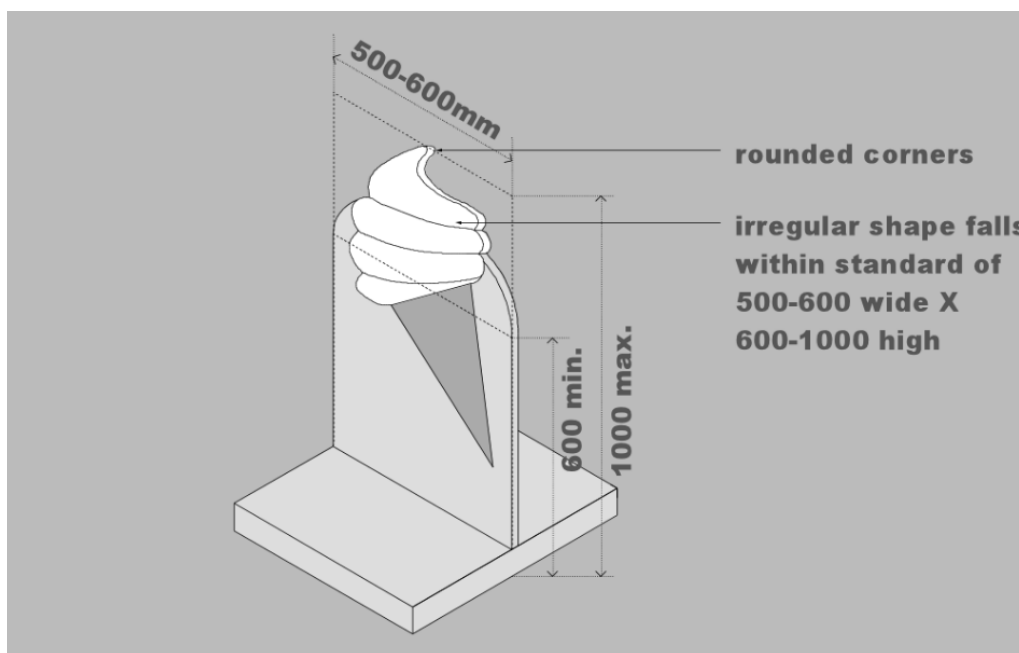


Figure 3: irregular shaped signs.

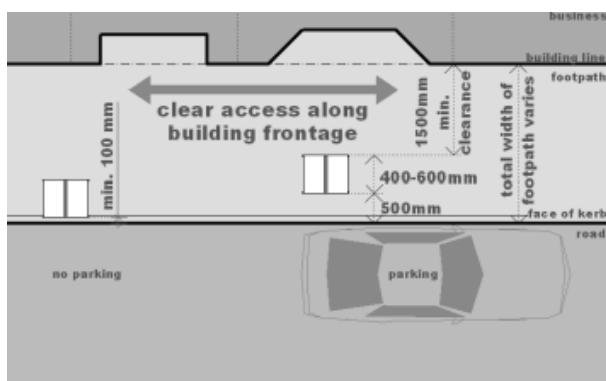
**Location Guidelines:**

Signs are to be located with a minimum of 1.5m between the wall and sign to maximize pedestrian utility of undercover walkways.

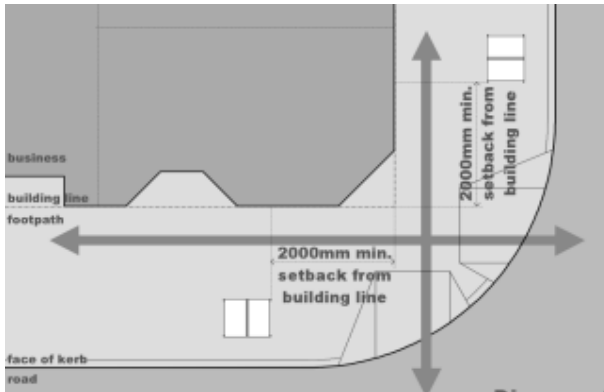
Signs are to be setback a minimum of 500mm from the curb adjacent to designated parking areas and in certain specific instances as directed and approved by Council.

For corner lots, signs must be a minimum of 2m from a continuation of the building line.

Signs are not to be located in garden beds or planted nature strips.



**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**



#### Temporary Event Signage

Council permits the erection of temporary event signs in the Council Road reserve, provided they comply with the following:

- Erected no more than 3 weeks prior to the event.
- Signage must not occupy a space greater than 3m<sup>2</sup>
- Maximum height of 1.5m above ground level.
- Removed within 1 week after the event.
- No more than 3 signs per event are to be erected on Council land.
- Must be covered by the sign owner's public liability – up to \$10 million.
- Unless located in a pre-approved location, written advice must be sought from General Manager regarding the specific sign, suitability of the location and method of erection/attachment prior to erection.

#### Finger Board Signs

Council permits the erection of fingerboard signs in Council Road Reserves and on Council sign posts for the following purposes:

- Street names
- Directional signs for community uses and facilities such as toilets, parking lots, recreation facilities, schools, churches, community club buildings etc
- Tourist attractions
- Rural activities such as stud farms, plant nurseries, vineyards etc in obscure locations.
- Shopping centres, industrial precincts and entertainment precincts but not individual businesses in urban areas.
- A maximum of 2 fingerboards may be approved. Signage will not be erected on all approaches nor on every intersection. Care must be taken by the applicant to identify intersections where signage will be of the greatest assistance.
- A maximum of three fingerboards of any type, pointing in the same direction are to be signed at the one location.

Finger board signs must be consistent with the Tasmanian Visitor Information System and comply with the Tasmanian Roadside Signs Manual.

The erection of finger post signs directing persons to individual private businesses shall not be permitted within urban areas, except where directing tourists to recognised tourist attractions and accommodation.

All fingerboard signs must comply with the relevant Australian Standard AS1742.5.

#### Sponsorship Signage at Sportsgrounds and other Community Facilities.

Council permits the erection of sponsorship signage associated with a club or community group

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

on Council owned and managed land, such as sporting facilities.

A Sponsorship sign on Council land must:

- Be associated with and in accordance with a user agreement between Council and the relevant community group or sporting club;
- Be located on land to which the agreement applies;
- Demonstrate that the sign is related to financial or in kind sponsorship of a local community group, sporting club or non-for profit which uses the land.
- Be consistent with any Council endorsed sponsorship sign program or guidelines applicable to the land;
- Be focused internally and not intended to be visible directly from public roads.

Council reserves the right to implement a sponsorship signage program to regulate the dimension and placement of signage on sportsgrounds or any other Council land.

Non-compliant Existing Signs

Any permanent sign existing in the road reserve at the effective date of the policy (**effective date to be inserted**) is considered to be a non-compliant existing sign. The following applies to non-compliant existing signs on Council land:

- a) a non-compliant existing sign may be replaced, provided it does not increase in height, dimensions or form and remains associated with the same business.
- b) A non-compliant sign immediately adjacent the premises to which it relates may be reused by subsequent businesses.
- c) A non-compliant sign that is remotely located, and not adjacent to the premises to which it relates, is not to be used by subsequent businesses nor to be used by a different business and is to be removed.
- d) A non-compliant sign associated with a property that is vacant for an extended period will be removed and will not be available to subsequent businesses.
- e) A non-compliant existing sign does not establish a precedent for further non-compliant signs.

Any portable sign existing in the road reserve at the effective date of the policy (**effective date to be inserted**) is considered to be a non-compliant existing sign. The following applies to portable non-compliant existing signs on Council land:

- a) A portable non-compliant existing sign that does not comply with the above design criteria may continue to be used for the life of the sign, however, portable signs must be repositioned, such that they comply with all applicable standards relating to access and safety.
- b) Any portable non-compliant existing sign that poses a risk to safety is to be removed at the direction of Council.
- c) A portable non compliant existing sign does not provide a right in perpetuity. Should replacement of the signs be required, they are to be replaced with portable signs that are consistent with the guidelines for permitted signs, with respect to both form and location.

It is the responsibility of the sign owner to demonstrate the sign was in use prior to the commencement of this policy.

Any land owned by the Council, but subject to a formal commercial lease agreement is to be treated as private property and is not subject to this policy. The regulations of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme will continue to regulate the types of advertising signage permitted.

**Council Supported Signage Programs**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

This policy does not prohibit the development and implementation of a signage program initiated and managed by Council or another entity approved by Council, which may incorporate private business directories, individual private signs or wayfinding, provided such a program intends:

- equitable access to signage opportunities; and
- requires design consistency to ensure maintenance of public amenity; or
- includes a commercial lease agreement and financial compensation at a market rate.

**Removal of Signs from Council Land**

Issues associated with signs cannot always be foreseen. The above notwithstanding, as the land owner/manager, Council reserves the right to prohibit and remove any sign on Council land, at any time, that:

- Does not have the necessary consent of the General Manager;
- Does not comply with the applicable standards outlined above;
- Obstructs access to a building or public facility;
- Causes an unreasonable risk to pedestrians or vehicle traffic;
- Displays inappropriate images or messages that are inconsistent with Council's values, community expectations or are not in the public interest.
- Is of a political, protesting, disparaging or offensive nature that is deemed by the General Manager to be at odds with Council's values, policies or decisions or negatively impacts upon Council's reputation.
- Is not maintained in an acceptable condition.

**9. IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW OF POLICY**

Implementation of this Policy rests with the General Manager. This Policy will be reviewed in **2 years initially and every four years thereafter** (number of years) or in accordance with legislative requirements.

A review of any George Town Council policy may occur out of cycle at any time.

.....  
Shane Power  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

.....  
**DATE**





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George Town Council

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## Private Signage on Council Land Procedure

Procedure 003/2024 – Version 002

<b>Compiled by:</b>	Town Planner	<b>Date of Issue:</b>	17/04/2025
<b>Approved by:</b>	General Manager	<b>Effective Date:</b>	01/07/2025
<b>Review Timeframe:</b>	Commence 2027		

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### Private Signage on Council Land - Procedure

This procedure guides applications for private signage on Council owned land and Council managed Roads (Council land), to ensure that public spaces remain free from signage clutter and maintain a high degree of public amenity and safety.

#### Procedural Steps

To assist staff to deal with private signage on Council land requests, the following information has been prepared:

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#### Application for Permit

No sign will be erected on Council land without prior consultation with Council and formal consent of the General Manager.

Requests (applications) for new signs or changes to existing signs on Council land must be made in writing and must use the Application for Signs on Council Land form.

1. Customers enquiring via phone are to be directed to the policy and design guidelines.
2. Customer will review options and contact Council to advise if they wish to proceed with an application.
3. The Customer will complete and submit a completed application form and attach the necessary information. The application is to include:
  - name and contact details of the sign owner;
  - name and date of the event (if applicable);
  - the intended location of the sign;
  - a description of the sign including;
    - overall size and dimensions of the sign;
    - design;
    - materials;
    - method of securing or fixing;

Private Signage on Council Land Procedure  
003/2024 – Version 002

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**



- a copy of the Certificate of Currency for Public Liability insurance that extends to cover the sign to the value of \$10million.
4. On receipt of a completed application form, Council will issue an invoice for the application. A fee for an application may be approved annually in setting Council's fees and charges. No further progress will be made until the fees are paid.
  5. Council Officers will assess the application. In addition ensuring proposed signs are consistent with the policy, Council Officers will undertake a risk assessment in accordance with the ISO Risk Management Guidelines, taking into consideration a range of factors, including traffic levels, pedestrian and cyclist impacts, existing signage, likely extent of community need, community service or commercial nature, future development plans, Council workload and priorities, and so on, in assessing the application.  
  
Additional information may be required depending on the particular circumstances. (If insufficient detail is provided, a Council Officer may ask for more details to be provided.)  
  
The Officer may visit the site and may meet with the applicant to discuss the sign.
  6. Once sufficient detail is provided and assessment completed, the General Manager may:
    - a) approve the sign with or without conditions, and issue a written consent;
    - b) or refuse consent for the sign to be placed on Council land;

If consent for a sign is refused a Council Officer is to provide reasons for the refusal.

All costs associated with the design, purchase and installation of the signs will be at the expense of the applicant.

The applicant is responsible to maintain the signage in accordance with Council's consent and maintain current Public Liability for the sign.

Signs which require a planning permit and/or a building approval, will also incur a fee as per Council's endorsed fees and charges and applications must be processed and approved prior to issuing consent to use Council Land.

Any fixed signs, such as fingerboard signs or replacement of existing non-conforming signs, must be erected by individuals suitably insured to undertake work in the Council Road Reserve.

Fingerboard signs to be mounted to existing street signs are to be supplied and erected by Council. The cost of purchasing and erecting the sign is to be borne by the applicant.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**



**Non-compliant Existing Signs**

Any permanent sign existing in the road reserve at the effective date of the policy (01/07/2025) is considered to be a non-compliant existing sign. The following procedure applies to non-compliant existing signs on Council land:

- a) Council officers to undertake an audit at commencement of the policy of the sandwich boards and other temporary signs on Macquarie Street and, provided there are no safety issues, record as existing non-compliant signs.
- b) Other non-compliant existing signs are to be recorded by Council Officers as Council becomes aware. There must be sufficient evidence (Google Street View/photographs) indicating the sign predates the policy.
- c) If non-compliant existing signs are associated with businesses that are no longer operating they are to be removed and returned to the business owner or retained at Council for two weeks for collection. Council will attempt to contact the business owner to return the sign. If signs are not collected and Council is unable to make contact, the signs will be disposed of after two weeks.
- d) If non-compliant existing signs are not covered by the business owner's public liability, they are to be removed.
- e) A business owner wishing to undertake works to change an existing non-compliant sign must make application to council and the work must be completed by suitably insured contractors. Council Officers will consider compliance with the policy with respect to non-compliant existing signs.
- f) A non-compliant existing sign may be replaced, provided it does not increase in height, dimensions or form and remains associated with the same business.
- g) A non-compliant sign immediately adjacent the premises to which it relates may be reused by subsequent businesses.
- h) A non-compliant sign that is remotely located, and not adjacent to the premises to which it relates, is not to be used by subsequent businesses and is to be removed.
- i) A non-compliant sign associated with a property that is vacant for an extended period will be removed and will not be available to subsequent businesses.
- j) A non-compliant existing sign does not establish a precedent for further non-compliant signs.

Any land owned by the Council, but subject to a formal commercial lease agreement is to be treated as private property and is not subject to this policy. The regulations of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme will continue to regulate the types of advertising signage permitted.

**Removal of Signs from Council Land**

As the land owner/manager, Council reserves the right to determine if signage is in the public interest and to exercise discretion to refuse or remove signs from public land. It is noted that these values and expectations may change over time.

In instances where new non-compliant signs are identified, Council will educate and encourage owners to bring signs into compliance by reviewing the Policy and making application.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**



In instances where sign owners cannot or will not bring signs into compliance in a reasonable timeframe, Council will undertake the removal of the sign from Council land at a cost to the land owner.

Council officers will immediately remove any sign on Council land that poses a risk to safety, obstructs access, or contains inappropriate messages or materials, without appeal.

Any signage removed by Council will be returned to the landowner directly if known and reasonably convenient to do so, or, will be held at the Council Office for a period of 2 weeks for collection by the owner.

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Shane Power  
**General Manager**

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

-----Original Message-----

From: Scott Bell [mailto:scottbell1950@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, 29 June 2022 1:00 AM

To: council <council@georgetown.tas.gov.au>

Subject: Attention Abbey : re Roadside Sign Policy

CAUTION: Do not click links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe

Dear Abbey,

I own a rateable property at 177 Saltwood Road, Little Pipers River.

The policy seems sensible and practical. WRT the urban streetscape and shopping centre signage, there might be some merit in sharing consistency with signage adopted by the Launceston City Council. I suspect there is a fair amount of travel and visiting between the two population centres, and consequently signage with consistency of design, size and colour, yet still preserving the appropriate , individual, logo or badging of the Council, will allow quick and easy interpretation by the viewer. Thankyou for your consideration .

Cheerio, Scott Bell

Dr. Scott Bell , FRACGP; FACRRM; ROF.  
Esmerelda Enterprises Environmental,

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**RESPONSE TO GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL "ROADSIDE SIGNAGE POLICY" - July 2022**

This Policy seems to cover much more than one would expect to be classed as "roadside signage" and I feel many won't be aware of the implications for them IF I am reading this correctly.

IF this policy **only applies to businesses and signs on the footpaths** (and not community organisations' or individuals' signs alongside a market, event, exhibition, etc), I make the following comments and have highlighted some questions I'd like clarified:

**Does Council currently have enough personnel with the expertise and equipment to manufacture and maintain this signage itself, or will this be contracted out?**

**If contracted out, will it be sourced locally?** If not contracted out, this could be seen as taking work away from local businesses who provide these services already.

**How much existing signage will be deemed "non-compliant" by this policy?**

While I can see a need for guidelines for the size, form and placement of signs to ensure safety, especially on the streets, it seems overly prescriptive and opportunistic for Council to dictate the colour and design of a business' sign. And even more so to have to approve the text and images on the sign, and to charge a fee for approval.

I don't understand why all signs should look the same. That defeats the whole purpose of attracting attention to your own 'business' and will make for a very boring environment!

People enjoy seeing 'interesting' signage and often take photos of any that 'tickle their fancy'.

Uniform size is OK, but do you really want to take away that little bit of enjoyment and all semblance of individuality?

Surely, if Council officers find a sign that is offensive or dangerous, steps can be taken to deal with it, rather than enforcing everyone to go through this process and pay a fee for it?

Regards,

Lorraine Wootton, Low Head.

[PS Personally, I feel pedestrians have more to fear on our streets from bikes, skateboards and scooters than they do from signs!]



## DRAFT – COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE POLICY

<b>Policy No.:</b>	<u>GTC 11</u>	<b>Policy type:</b>	Council
<b>Responsibility:</b>	C & C	<b>Policy expires:</b>	
<b>Approved by:</b>	Council	<b>Approved on:</b>	
<b>Minute No.:</b>		<b>Review date:</b>	June <u>2027-2029</u>

Document History/Version Control			
Version No.	Date	Details	Comment
8	29 June 2021	Financial Assistance Revised	Min

Amendment/Administrative History			
Date	Details	Comment	Authorised by

## Contents

1. OBJECTIVE
2. TYPE OF POLICY
3. SCOPE
4. DEFINITIONS
5. LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN
6. RELATED LEGISLATION
7. RISK CONSIDERATIONS
8. POLICY
9. IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW OF POLICY

### 1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Policy is to provide a robust and transparent framework for the provision of financial assistance through community grants and sponsorship to:

- (a) community clubs and organisations for activities and programs that aim to grow community capacity, initiatives, and programs, or assist the community to reduce factors that lead to social disadvantage. Examples of suitable projects include but not limited to:
  - Minor infrastructure, i.e. purchase of equipment for use by organisations
  - Community Arts Projects
  - Community workshops and training courses
- (b) Individuals who represent Tasmania or Australia in national and international events

### 2. TYPE OF POLICY

As per Section 9 of Policy GTC-12, this policy (GTC-C-XX) is categorised as a Council Policy.

This categorisation is consistent with the definitions as stated in Policy GTC-12 which are as follows:

**Council** - Policies pertaining to the Governance of the Council and the activities of its elected members, including the establishment of Committees, and the government of the municipality including resident and ratepayer compliance policies and by-laws.

**Operational** - Policies pertaining to the operational, administrative, and internal matters of the Council, including internal governance, internal committees, and operational matters of service delivery.

### 3. SCOPE

Council's annual Community Assistance Program is a strategic tool aimed at capacity building, supporting innovation and addressing community need in line with the Council's vision.

This Policy provides an equitable, efficient, transparent and sustainable framework for the allocation of Council's Community Grants program to Incorporated Not for Profit Community Organisations in the municipality of George Town.



**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**4. DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions apply to this Policy and Procedure:

Acquittal	The process by which a recipient demonstrates in writing to the Council that it has expended the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the funding agreement on completion of the activity or project.
Auspice	means an incorporated organisation who receives, administers and acquits council's funding on behalf of the applicant.
Community or resident groups	An entity that carries on activities for a public purpose; or an entity whose primary objective is not directed at making a profit.
Council	means the George Town Council.
Grants	means cash or in-kind support provided to applicants for a specified project or purpose as outlined in the funding agreement between the council and the recipient.
Incorporated association	registered under the <a href="#">Associations Incorporation Act 1964</a> .
In-kind support	means a contribution of a good or a service other than money, for example voluntary labour, donated goods or services.
Not for profit organisation	A not-for-profit organisation is one which is not operating for the profit or gain of its individual members, whether these gains would have been direct or indirect. A not-for-profit organisation can still make a profit, but this profit must be used to carry out its purposes and must not be distributed to owners, members or other private people.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

Council fee remission	The provision of paid and volunteer labour, administrative support, hire-free facilities or provisions of Council services.
Policy	means this policy.
Registered charity organisation	means as determined by the Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission.

DRAFT

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**5. LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

**George Town Council Strategic Plan 2020-2030**

**~~Future Direction One – Community Pride~~**

- ~~1. All are valued and included~~
  - ~~i. Taking a ‘whole-of-community’ approach to everything.~~
  - ~~v. Working towards removing all barriers to participation in community life.~~
  - ~~vii. Building community pride in our young people.~~

**~~Future Direction One – Community Pride~~**

- ~~2. All communities take pride in their place~~
  - ~~i. Supporting the plans of Progress Associations.~~

**~~Future Direction One – Community Pride~~**

- ~~3. A strong, recognisable, positive reputation~~
  - ~~iii. Promoting the area as the place to live, work, play and invest.~~

**~~Future Direction One – Community Pride~~**

- ~~5. Community groups work together on common goals~~
  - ~~i. Working together on common goals.~~

**~~Future Direction Two – Prosperity for All in All Aspects of Life~~**

- ~~9. Tourism growth in yield~~
  - ~~iv. Focusing on cultural and historic interpretation and associated experiences and the area’s produce.~~
  - ~~v. Developing a diverse range of tourism products that complement the Tasmanian brand.~~

**~~Future Direction Two – Prosperity for All in All Aspects of Life~~**

- ~~11. Healthy, active communities~~
  - ~~i. Knowing how to stay healthy and active and valuing good health outcomes. Eating well, active living, preventative health approaches.~~
  - ~~ii. Getting and staying active. Participation in recreation, arts and cultural activities.~~

**~~Future Direction Three – Progressive Well-Resourced Communities~~**

- ~~5. Communities have agreed strategic plans~~
  - ~~i. Supporting Progress Associations to achieve their annual priorities.~~
  - ~~ii. Making sure communities remain connected, engaged and empowered.~~
  - ~~iii. Celebrating project successes.~~

**~~Future Direction Three – Progressive Well-Resourced Communities~~**

- ~~7. Community celebrations build the areas reputation~~
  - ~~i. Using cultural and artistic celebrations to engage and build understanding of the community and area.~~
  - ~~ii. Growing attendance numbers by responding to new, creative ideas and improvements.~~
  - ~~iii. Programming to avoid clashes of dates.~~
  - ~~iv. Including specific activities designed by young people in all celebrations.~~

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

**Future Direction One - Progressive well-resourced communities**

1. Social infrastructure and services match growth and community needs

**Future Direction One - Progressive well-resourced communities**

2. Formal and Informal sporting and recreational opportunities for all

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

- 4. Vibrant local communities
- 5. A diverse and active volunteering base
- 6. Community celebrations build the areas identity

**Future Direction Two - Prosperity in all aspects of Life and Living**

- 19. Healthy, active communities
- 20. A healthy and respected environment

**Future Direction Three - Community Pride**

- 22. Everyone in our community is valued and included
- 23. All communities take pride in their place
- 24. Safe and secure communities
- 25. Community groups work together on common goals
- 27. A culture of engagement, communication and participation
- 28. Positive mindsets across communities
- 30. Young people are a supported, recognised community resource

**6. RELATED LEGISLATION**

*LEGISLATIVE (ACTS, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS)*

- ☐ *Local Government Act 1993*

**Related Council Policies and Documents**

George Town Council Community Strategic Plan

George Town Council Events Strategy

**George Town Council Sponsorship Policy**

George Town Council Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy

George Town Council Fees and Charges

**7. RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

This policy is aligned with objectives for risk management at George Town Council, and in particular:

- Providing a basis for higher standards of accountability.
- Allowing for more effective allocation and use of resources.
- Setting performance standards and regular review and improving practices and procedures.
- **Ensuring appropriate relationships and having necessary safeguards to protect Council's reputation.**

**8. POLICY**

Council will allocate funds annually in its budget in order to provide financial support to community clubs and organisations, and individuals under 25 years of age selected to represent Tasmania or Australia at national or international events.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**8.1 Assistance to Individuals**

- Financial assistance may be provided to individuals selected to represent Tasmania or Australia in national or international events. Applicants must be under 25 years of age and a resident of the George Town municipality, and an application for assistance must be accompanied by written advice of selection from the appropriate body.
- Financial assistance can be applied for at any time
- Financial assistance must be applied for before attendance at the event
- Financial assistance has been structured as follows:
  - Intrastate participation up to \$200 per person and will be paid to each eligible individual only once during a financial year
  - Interstate participation up to \$500 per person and will be paid to each eligible individual only once during a financial year
  - International participation up to \$1000 per person and will be paid to each eligible individual only once during a financial year
- Applications for Assistance to Individuals pursuant to this policy will be submitted to, reviewed and approved by the General Manager

**8.2 Community Assistance – Council Fee Remission**

- Fee remission for hire of Council owned venues and Council service charges may be provided to community groups whose members are primarily residents of the George Town municipality, or are located in the George Town municipality, and which offer benefits to the municipality of George Town.
- Fee remission may be applied for where fees incurred are integral to the provision of an activity by the applicant group which contributes to strengthening and enriching an active, vibrant and culturally diverse community life for the George Town municipality.
- Fee remission assistance may be applied for at any time.
- Fee remission assistance may be provided for part only of all eligible fees and charges. The number and dollar amount of applications from one organisation in any one financial year will be taken into consideration.
- Fee remission assistance under this program is limited to \$500 per community group and will be provided to eligible organisations only once during a financial year.
- Applications for Fee Remission Assistance pursuant to this policy, where the request for assistance is over \$500 should be submitted as an application for a Community Grant, and must meet the eligibility and application requirements of that Assistance Program
- Fee remission assistance is provided to organisations, not individuals.
- Costs associated with **bonds**, cleaning fees, audio and **other** equipment hire, cannot be applied for under a fee remission.
- Applications for Fee Remission Assistance pursuant to this policy will be submitted to, reviewed and determined by the General Manager where the request for assistance is up to \$500.

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

**8.3 Community Assistance – Community Grants**

Community Grants may be provided to community groups whose members are primarily residents of the George Town municipality, or are located in the George Town municipality, and the support is being sought to benefit the community of George Town by:

- Assisting community clubs and organisations to grow capacity and build social capital;
- Encouraging innovative approaches to emerging issues and need in the George Town municipality including enhancing cultural, environmental, health and wellbeing outcomes

Community grants will be offered twice a year in competitive grant rounds. Round 1 will open in August; Round 2 will open in February. Both rounds will be advertised to the community.

Each grant application will be assessed against the selection criteria as outlined in this Policy.

Grant applications assessed as complying with this policy will be considered by Council at the next ordinary meeting of Council after the respective grant round has closed.

Applicants will be notified of Council's decision as soon as practicable after Council's deliberation.

Applications must be submitted on the appropriate form, by the due date, with any supporting documentation as requested. Strictly no late applications will be accepted.

A community organisation may only receive one Community Assistance – Community Grant in any one financial year. (This does not include Community Assistance Fee Assistance requests, although the number and amount of a Fee Remission request may be taken into consideration).

Grants are made to organisations, not individuals.

The organisation's willingness to contribute to the project will be taken into account.

Applications of up to \$2000 may be submitted. Council may allocate less than the amount requested.

Guidelines for grants administration will be approved by the General Manager and reviewed annually.

Successful applicants will be required to sign a grant deed of funding and will receive 80% of the funding amount upfront on receipt of a tax invoice and the final 20% following acquittal.

**8.4 Eligibility**

Organisations must:

- Be incorporated not for profit, or auspiced by an incorporated organisation
- Be located within and/or must work to significantly benefit the George Town community
- Maintain Public Liability Insurance Cover (~~\$20~~-10 million minimum)
- Make application on the form provided by Council and must provide all required documentation and information

What will not be funded: \_\_\_\_\_

- Funding requests which are retrospective

**George Town Council**  
**2025 04 29 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS**  
**Agenda**

- Ongoing administration and running costs
- Trophies or prize money
- Political activities
- Professional fundraising organisations
  - ~~Activities closely duplicating existing/current projects~~
  - Funding to commercial operations / businesses.

#### **8.5 Assessment criteria**

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Alignment with Council's Strategic Plan. Applicants must complete the self assessment section of the community grants application form which refers to alignment with Council's Strategic Plan –
  - Support and advocate for organisations and community groups to grow community capacity.
  - Supports integrated community, health and education services;
  - Supports sport and recreation, work opportunities, health and education services for young people;
  - Support programs which address social disadvantage;
  - Participation in community safety initiatives;
  - Enhances the vibrancy of places.
- Management capacity of the organisation both generally and in respect to the specified project budget, timeframe and achievement of objectives.
- Level of support, in kind and financial, from both the applicant organisation and other sources.
- The program or activity has benefits which will grow community capacity;
- The project, activity or program has community support
- ~~The applicant has the ability to can~~ deliver the program or initiative.
- The applicant must make every effort to conduct sufficient enquiries to ensure their event does not clash with other planned events of a similar nature or targeting a similar audience.

The Community Assistance Grants are very competitive, and there is a limited amount of funding available.

#### **8.6 Acquittal of Community Grants**

- All funds received under Council's Community Assistance Policy, must be used for the purpose as stated in the grant application. Recipient organisations will be required to provide Council with an acquittal report.

**9. IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW OF POLICY**

Implementation of this Policy rests with the General Manager. This policy will be reviewed ~~in June~~ every ~~four~~three years.

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Shane Power  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

DRAFT