

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2026 - WEST COAST COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING OPEN AGENDA

27 January 2026 Commencing 5:22 PM – AEST

West Coast Council Chambers, 11 Sticht St Queenstown 7467

Attendees (8)

Shane Pitt; Robert Butterfield; Lindsay Newman; Kerry Graham; Liz Harmer; Annie McKay, Vikki Iwanicki; Dwayne Jordan

Absent: Scott Stringer

OPEN MEETING AGENDA

These minutes are to be read in conjunction with the open meeting agenda.

01/26 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillors	Apology	Approved Leave	Non-Attendance	Attended
Mayor Shane Pitt				X
Deputy Mayor Robert Butterfield				X
Cr Lindsay Newman				X
Cr Scott Stringer		X		
Cr Kerry Graham				X
Cr Liz Hamer				X
Cr Annie McKay				X
Cr Vikki Iwanicki				X
Cr Dwayne Jordan				X

Staff	Attended
General Manager	X
Director Infrastructure & Operations	X
Manager Organisational Performance	X

02/26 DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – 10(3)(f) and 10(8):

Councillor	Item Number	Subject
Mayor Pitt	18/26	Lease of Lions Club – Mayor is a member of the Executive of the meeting.

03/26 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025: Regulation 10(3)(b):

Recommendation
That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the West Coast Council, held at the West Coast Council Chambers, 11 Sticht Street Queenstown, on Thursday 11 December 2025 , a copy of which having previously been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.
Moved: Cr Butterfield
Seconded: Cr Iwanicki
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, McKay, Iwanicki (6)

Against: Cr Hamer

Abstained: Cr Jordon

Recommendation
That it be moved that Item 21/26 be brought forward for debate.
Moved: Cr Graham
Seconded: Cr Mc Kay
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)

Against: Nil

21/26 REPORT - STRAHAN WATERFRONT PETITION PUBLIC MEETING

Motion

That Council

1. Acknowledge the community concerns raised in relation to the Strahan Waterfront petition submissions and consider the proposed mitigations and outcomes detailed within the report.
2. Endorse the immediate actions taken in relation to the project Strahan Waterfront Project
 - a. Cessation of the installation of all hard rock landscaping.
 - b. Review of the project works contract implementation leadership.
3. Action for immediate implementation and progression.
 - a. The removal of all hard landscaping in the form of rock at the lowest possible cost reusing the material for alternative Council works.
 - b. Investigation of temporary fuel supply option via self-bunded module to allow the fuel tanks to be demolished to improve wharf access and traffic circulation.
 - c. Provide advice to all non-essential traffic on the wharf area to be excluded through updated traffic signage to assist the working port functions.
 - d. Review of all approvals for the project works.
 - e. Completion of the new toilet facilities as a priority.
4. Action detailed community consultation on the project design elements including,
 - a. Waterfront views in the design to align with the community vision.
 - b. Landscaping design review.
 - c. Removal of a large portion of the current wall structure excluding the support area for the new waterfront shelter.
 - d. Waters edge concrete designs
 - e. Site and precinct parking solutions.
 - f. Precinct signage and way finding.
 - g. Material selection and resilience suitability.
5. Action key working wharf industry stake holder consultation on the preferred wharf access protocols to support vessel use, refuelling and catch landing.
6. Consultation to be undertaken using the IAP2 model for the various project element components.
7. Investigate the potential options for additional toilet facilities on the Strahan Waterfront precinct.
8. Confirm the following schedule for community engagement and collaboration meetings to be led by the General Manager in Strahan for February to April 2026 to refine the new design considerations prior to reporting back for costing and implementation to the West Coast Council.
 - a. Thursday the 19th February 2026 at 6.00pm in Strahan.
 - b. Thursday the 19th March 2026 at 6.00pm in Strahan.
 - c. Thursday the 16th April 2026 at 6.00pm In Strahan.
9. Post community consultation engagement and collaboration consider a report on the community feedback recommendations for project modifications on the site at the West Coast Council Ordinary meeting in April 2026.

Moved: Cr Graham
Seconded: Cr Newman
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Jordan (7)
 Against: Cr Iwanicki

04/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Regulation 33:

Questions on Notice

Raised in December 2025 Meeting taken on notice, Kerri Laffer from Zeehan:

I would like to request, on behalf of animal welfare centre inc, a cat management enforcement area, permanently around the boundary of Zeehan to help irradiate all ferals please. I also seek a fine for those with cats not desexed over 8 months old. Kittens are having kittens because of useless, poorly managed uncaring animal owners.

Response: While Council could set up a cat management area for Zeehan, it would be more responsible to consider all towns of the West Coast Council. Council will consider the adoption of an Animal Control By-Law during 2026 and cats will be considered as part of this by-law.

Raised in December 2025 Meeting taken on notice, Terri Barclay from Queenstown:

With summer coming and the potential for fire season, Terri raised concerns regarding trees located on the corner of McNamara and Mellor Street and asked Council for an update on tree removal, or at least the removal of branches to ensure community safety.

Response: Site inspection carried out but still waiting for commitment from the contractor.

Keegan Omens from Queenstown:

PWS has also been around at least Queenstown and has found contractors, time and weather to complete considerable spraying of broom, blackberry and foxglove. Yet foxglove and other declared weeds continue to run rampant on council land? How is PWS and their contractors able to complete work yet the General Manager cites no contractors available, has he reached out to PWS for contacts on who they have successfully used? I look forward to hearing your response in the January council meeting.

Response: Council’s main concern at this stage is the removal of fuel for fires. As such there has been an initial concentration on gorse, blackberry and broom. While foxglove is a declared weed, it is not considered a fire risk. Without specifically knowing the areas that Ms Omens is referring to, it is unknown if the issue is on Council or Crown land. Unfortunately, there is often confusion in relation to public land and who is responsible for it. In relation to the clearing of grass etc around Queenstown, Council uses its outdoor staff to clear Council owned properties rather than contractors. The timing has been later this year due the extended wet period experienced.

Questions without Notice

Sharon Newett, Strahan:

When does the 10 year lease for the community space in the Steamship Building commence and is the lease protected in the case of an ownership change?

Response: The lease commences once the renovations to the second level are complete. The purchaser has 2 years to complete the renovation, but it can be extended if it is not complete in 2 years. The lease arrangement is protected should there be a change of ownership of the property

Scott Newett, Strahan:

With a change to the superintendent of the wharf project is there a threat to the delivery of the project?

Response: It is believed that the change will bring about better outcomes for the community.

Scott Newett, Strahan:

In the action items there is an action item which is titled Howard St – One Way. I thought that this option had been eliminated based on community comments?

Response: This is correct, the title will be changed to just reflect Howard St as the issue.

Scott Newett, Strahan:

It would be good to see the Dick Clarke jetty back in operation. What is Council’s intention with this?

Response: Council agrees that this is important and there has been discussion regarding obtaining MAST funding to assist with repairs.

Robert Trestrail, Strahan:

With regards to the Wharf project, it will be good to see the project progress as per tonight’s resolution. It would be a shame to just stop works.

Response: Agreed.

07/26 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – Regulations 35:

Questions on Notice

Question on Notice: Cr. Hamer

Why has the Strahan gym been left with minimum equipment, when clearly there was to be equipment for the gym. This is a health and wellbeing issue and why has the health and wellbeing , officer not been flying the flag for community to have the equipment installed. There is more than enough equipment in other gyms and could be shared around the west coast. I can only state are we as a council setting our community up for failure this lack of gym equipment has impacted the community. Why should we place an outdated consideration of donated equipment, when the funding supplied was to include the equipment for Strahan. Please explain from a resident who is a sports psychologist.

Response: Replacement equipment for the Strahan Fitness Centre has been dispatched and is expected to arrive shortly. A report on the condition of fitness equipment across Council facilities was tabled at the December 2025 Council Meeting. A further update is now scheduled to be presented to Council in February 2026 following a review of the initial information and scope of works by the new operational leadership team. Council operations is acuity aware the service level needs to be improved, and measures have been enacted to improve operational leadership.

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

What communication has Council undertaken with the State Government regarding the closure of the Fossey River public toilets, including whether Council has received any formal advice or plans outlining replacement facilities, the proposed number of toilets and amenities to be provided, and, given that Council has been seeking this information for approximately three years without response, what further actions Council will take to obtain clarity for the community?

Response: Council has written numerous times to State Government but have not seen any final designs or been notified of its commencement. This is perhaps because the property is in Waratah Wynyard Council.

Council will write to Waratah Wynyard Council to request copies of the plans if they have them.

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

Is Council aware that, despite assurances from the Minister for Health that no services would be lost at the West Coast District Hospital following the contracting of a different pathology provider, the below listed services are no longer available:

- INR Point of Care Testing machine (clinical monitoring of blood clotting)
- i-STAT machine (blood analyser providing rapid results for blood gases, electrolytes and chemistries)
- Haematology analyser (full blood counts and differentials)
- ESR counter (erythrocyte sedimentation rate testing)

What actions has Council taken or will take to advocate to the Minister for Health and the Tasmanian Health Service for the reinstatement of these essential diagnostic services?

Response: West Coast Council has not been previously made aware of the service level changes. It is most appropriate to provide an updated request to the Minister for Health to have the services reinstated. A draft letter response will be tabled for Council's consideration at the Ordinary meeting.

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

Is Council aware that numerous pieces of equipment at the Queenstown Gym continue to remain in disrepair? Despite a report on gym equipment being tabled at a recent Council meeting it appears that there is little to no progress being made to ensure equipment is available and in working order for West Coast gym goers. What are the reasons for the ongoing delays in completing these repairs, what is the current status and expected timeframe for all outstanding works, and will Council consider providing gym users with a fee reduction, refund, or formal apology in recognition of the prolonged disruption and reduced service availability?

Response: Council is aware that a number of items of fitness equipment at the Queenstown Gym are currently unavailable or in disrepair. A report on the condition of fitness equipment across Council facilities was tabled at the December 2025 Council Meeting. A further update is now scheduled to be presented to Council in February 2026 following a review of the initial information and scope of works by the new operational leadership team. Replacement equipment for the Strahan Fitness Centre has been dispatched and is expected to arrive shortly.

In relation to the Queenstown Gym, Council officers are currently reconfirming the scope of outstanding repairs and replacement requirements and finalising procurement timeframes with suppliers. This matter is being progressed as a priority. Council acknowledges the inconvenience experienced by gym users as a result of reduced equipment availability. Once timeframes are confirmed, Council will provide further information to members regarding the status of the works.

08/26 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – Regulations 34:

Questions Without Notice

Question on Notice: Cr McKay
Has Council contacted the Westpac Bank in relation to potential banking services or the West Coast?
Response: No formal correspondence has occurred following initial conversations. Council has also been trying to arrange a meeting with the Bank of Us

Question on Notice: Cr McKay
With the accessibility to toilets being 24/7, I have noticed RV's overnighting beside the toilets so they have access. This is even though there is signage clearly indicating that there is no camping in this spot. Can this issue be considered when Council develops its RV Strategy?
Response: Noted.

09/26 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Motion: Cr. Hamer
That the West Coast Council resolves to investigate and follow up with road repairs at campground in trial harbour.
Moved: Cr Hamer
Seconded: Cr Newman
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)

Against: Nil

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

12/26 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR DIARIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Noting Decision
That Council note the Mayor & Councillor Diaries and Communications as presented.
Outcome: Noted

COUNCILLOR GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Date	Name of Recipient	Gift or Donation	Name of Donor	Monetary Value
15/12/25	Mayor Pitt	Huon Christmas Hamper	JBS	\$135.00
24/12/25	Mayor Pitt	Salmon Hamper	Petuna	\$100.00

13/26 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, Clause 10(3)(c)

Noting Decision
That Council note the following Workshops were conducted by Council since the last Ordinary Council Meeting:
Outcome: Noted

Briefing / Workshop Dates	Subjects
27 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zeehan landfill • Budget discussion/ Financial review 6 months • Zeehan Men's Shed • Governance Review • Queenstown Men's Shed • Zeehan Football Club Memorabilia • Privacy and Confidentiality Policy • ATV restriction on roads

14/26 CORRESPONDENCE

Noting Decision
That Council note the Correspondence, both incoming and outgoing, as presented.
R – Correspondence presented to Council for a determination / Response
N – Correspondence presented to Council for Noting
Outcome: Noted

Correspondence IN	Subject	Action Required
Her Excellency the Governor	Thank You – Governors Visit	N
Premier of Tasmania	100 Days of Delivery	N
Study Hub West Coast	Thank You – Exhibitors	N
Nicole Ashwood	Thank You - Basketball Hoop, Tullah	N
The Unconformity	Certificate of Thanks	N
Rural Health Tasmania	Media Statement – Appointment of CEO	N
Australian Government – Department Home Affairs	Signing citizenship certificates – changes	N
Premier of Tasmania	Response to Mobile Breast Screening Service letter	N
Premier of Tasmania	Response to Funding of Neighbourhood Houses	N
West Coast Heritage Centre	Zeehan Football Club Memorabilia	R
Correspondence OUT	Subject	Action Required
Mayor Shane Pitt	Request Funding Support to Premier and Minister Jaensch – Funding of Neighbourhood Houses	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	Request to Premier and Minister Archer - Urgent Concerns Replacement of BreastScreen Tasmania Mobile Screening Unit	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	Letter of Support to Keith Ryan - Tasmania’s Next Iconic Walk – Letter of Support	N

15/26 COUNCIL DECISION STATUS REPORTS/ACTION ITEM LIST

Noting Decision
That Council note the Status Report/Action Item of Open Council Meeting decisions be received.
Outcome: Noted

16/26 ORGANISTAIONAL REPORTS FOR NOTING

Noting Decision
That Council note the following reports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growth and Change 2. Organisational Performance 3. Planning and Compliance 4. West Coast Visitor Information Centre 5. Operations and Infrastructure 6. Quarterly Communications Report 7. Abatement Program Update
Outcome: Noted

17/26 REPORT – SALE OF PROPERTIES TO RECOVER UNPAID RATES

Motion
That Council supports the sale of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3A Harvey St Queenstown (PID 5876255) • 4 Cutten St Queenstown (PID 5872553) • 4/31 Dalmeny St Rosebery (PID 7420884) • 5 Clemons St Rosebery (PID 602306) • 8 Gellibrand St Zeehan (PID 6014665) • Lot 16A Severn St Zeehan (PID 7313181) • Main St Zeehan (PID 2543682) In accordance with section 137 of the Local Government Act 1993.
Moved: Cr Graham
Seconded: Cr Newman
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)
 Against: Nil

Mayor Pitt removed himself from the meeting at 6.56pm due to a conflict of interest being that he is an Executive Member of the Queenstown Lions Club.

Deputy Mayor Butterfield assumed the Chair.

18/26 REPORT - LEASE RENEWAL QUEENSTOWN LIONS CLUB OF QUEENSTOWN RECREATION RESERVE

Motion
That Council renew the lease with the Queenstown Lions Club for the Queenstown Recreation Ground for a further five (5) years
Moved:
Seconded:
Outcome:
Alternative Motion: That Council renew the lease with the Queenstown Lions Club for the Queenstown Recreation Ground for a further twelve (12) months during which time it also undergo an Expression of Interest to determine if other community groups would be interested in a lease at the property.
Outcome: Carried

For: Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (7)

Against: Nil

Mayor Pitt returned to the meeting at 7:05pm and the Mayor resumed as the chair.

19/26 REPORT - LEASE RENEWAL QUEENSTOWN CROWS FOOTBALL CLUB INC OF FACILITIES AT QUEENSTOWN RECREATION RESERVE

Motion
That Council renew the lease with the Queenstown Crows Football Club Inc for the Queenstown Recreation Ground facilities for a further five (5) years.
Moved: Cr Jordan
Seconded: Cr Butterfield
Alternative Motion: That Council renew the lease with the Queenstown Crows Football Club Inc for the Queenstown Recreation Ground facilities for a further five (5) years pending an assessment of the building.
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)
Against: Nil

20/26 REPORT - SUSTAINABLE TIMBERS LEASE

Motion
That Council approve the signing and sealing of a lease with Sustainable Timber for the property located at Harvey Street Strahan (PID 7136859) for a period of 5 years.
Moved: Cr Iwanicki
Seconded: Cr Butterfield
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)
Against: Nil

22/26 REPORT – FINANCE REPORT AS @ 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Motion
That Council receives and acknowledges the finance report as at 31st December 2025.
Moved: Cr Iwanicki
Seconded: Cr Graham
Outcome: Carried

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)
 Against : Nil

23/26 MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CLOSED MEETING

Motion
That Council RESOLVE BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to go into Closed Session to discuss items from 24/26 to 37/26
Moved: Cr Newman
Seconded: Cr Hamer
Outcome: Carried

Item Number	Matter	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 (Meeting Closure Reference)
24/26	Confirmation of meeting Minutes	17 (2)(h)
26/26	Councillor Raised issues & information	17 (2)(h)
30/26	Council Decision Statuses Reports/Action Items	17 (2)(h)
31/26	Correspondence	17 (2)(h)
32/26	General Manager’s Certificate	17 (2)(h)
33/26	General Manager’s Report	17 (2)(h)
34/26	Report – Staff Movements	17 (2) (a)
35/26	Report - Privacy & Confidentiality Policy	17 (2) (b)
36/26	Report – Organisational Structure	17 (2) (b)
37/26	Report – Strategic Risk Update	17 (2) (b)
37/26	Open Meeting	17 (9)

For: Pitt, Butterfield, Newman, Graham, Hamer, McKay, Iwanicki, Jordan (8)
Against: Nil

CLOSE OF MEETING, TIME BEING: 9.11PM