

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

 24th February 2026 Commencing 5:00 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

Apology: Scott Stringer

OEN MEETING AGENDA

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

39/26 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

40/26 DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST

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

Nil

41/26 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 27th January 2026 , a copy of which having previously been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, be confirmed as a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendment: In item 18/26 Mayor Pitt was not present at the time of voting due to a declared conflict of interest, and therefore so should not be recorded as voting “For”.
Moved: Cr Butterfield
Seconded: Cr Graham
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan
Against: Cr Hamer

Recommendation
That the minutes of the Special Council meeting of the West Coast Council, held at the West Coast Council Chambers, 11 Sticht Street Queenstown, on 5th February 2026 , 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: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan
Against: Cr Hamer

42/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Regulation 33:

Questions on Notice

The following questions relates to the Gyms operated by the West Coast Council:

1. What are the West Coast Council's (Council) current ongoing funding allocation/arrangements for gyms operated by the Council?
2. What are the number of active Members of each gym operated by the Council? Note: Active refers to current paid members and members provided membership via employment conditions etc.
3. What priority has Council given to rectifying the issues in the Queenstown Gym?
4. What was the procurement process undertaken by the Council relating to the engagement of Health and Leisure? What organisations were approached, other than Health and Leisure?
5. Is there a current Agreement in place? If so, can the Council table a copy?
6. Is Health and Leisure 'contracted' to provide services to all five gyms the Council operates?
7. Is there a current gym Service Schedule in place as part of the contract arrangements with Health and Leisure? If so, please provide details. If not, why not?
8. Given incorrect advice provided by Health and Leisure to Council previously at various times, regarding the status of equipment in the QT gym, and Council's acceptance of this advice without appropriate checks in place, do the current contractual arrangements (if any) allow for Council to seek reimbursement of funds paid, given it would be considered a breach of contract?
9. How are the services monitored and managed by the Council overall and daily?
10. What training is provided to Council employees in relation to the management of contractors such as Health and Leisure in relation to gyms and recreation facilities? It is noted that Council employees may not attend a gym, so how are they able to monitor and manage any gym related contractual arrangements?
11. Given the consistent, ongoing approach from representatives of the Queenstown Gym to Council to assist Council with all matters relating to the gyms, given Council's lack of knowledge and experience in this area, and Council's disappointing reluctance to accept assistance, can Council explain why it has not freely engaged with the representative/s unless approached? It is noted that the December Paper for Council consideration was of poor quality and did not include reference to the 'roof/squash court' project, however, was released as an part of a Council meeting Agenda Item Paper.

Will Council work more closely with gym representatives going forward?

Response: The matters raised in the submission relate to operational, contractual and service delivery issues. These matters are currently being reviewed and will be addressed through a forthcoming Council report on gym operations, scheduled for consideration at a future Council meeting. Accordingly, responses to the questions will be provided through that report rather than during Public Question Time.

Questions without Notice

NIL

45/26 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

Questions on Notice

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

I was recently contacted by a local tourism operator regarding a meeting for the next Iconic Walk. According to a January 30, 2026 newsletter from the North West regional tourism body (WxNW), there would be an update for tourism operators to attend at West Coast Council Chambers on Tuesday 10 February. When the operator called Council on Tuesday they were told that Council was meeting with Parks and Wildlife about the Iconic Walk on that day but the meeting was not open to the public. When will local tourism operators have the opportunity to hear first-hand about the progress of this project?

Response: The General Manager followed up with project lead from Parks and Wildlife on Tuesday the 17th of February and was advised further communication will be available shortly on the project as the project scoping remains incomplete especially in relation to the carparking solutions for walkers and several sites are being considered. There are a number of zoning issues being worked through with various sites being considered.

It was reiterated in conversations the community is keen to understand the project and would welcome as early as possible further updates.

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

In 2022 West Coast Council in partnership with Queenstown Junior Basketball received a \$378,357 grant as part of the State Government's "Improving the Playing Field" Large Grants Program. To date, what upgrades have been made at the Queenstown Basketball Stadium, what is the status of outstanding works and what monies remain as part of this grant? When must the grant monies be expended?

Response: This grant has recently been reviewed, and a detailed response is included in the closed meeting for Councils consideration.

Question on Notice: Cr. Iwanicki

In February 2023 at a Council Workshop, local and noted Tasmanian artist Mandy Hunniford presented to Council regarding her artwork “To Those that did not return home” – a memorial for the region’s fallen miners. Ms Hunniford was seeking to keep the artwork on the West Coast and Council committed to contacting local mines to gauge their interest towards a collaborative purchase and a permanent public display at the Queenstown Library, subsequently writing to mining companies in March 2023. Could Council please advise the current status of these inquiries and advise what information has been communicated with Ms Hunniford?

Response: Records indicate Council wrote in March 2023 to a number of mining companies following the Council Workshop held in February 2023 to seek interest in a collaborative purchase of the artwork. Some indicative interest was received; however, the contributions offered did not meet the amount sought and we believe no agreement was entered into. The matter was managed by the General Manager and staff at that time, and further review of records is required to confirm what correspondence was provided to the artist by previous staff.

Question on Notice: Cr. McKay

Following the January Ordinary Council Meeting, a question was raised by Councillor Iwanicki regarding the design and functionality of the Fossey River toilet upgrade. At that time, the General Manager advised that no detailed information was available and that enquiries were being made with Waratah–Wynyard Council.

Given the critical importance of this facility to the West Coast community, particularly as a key rest stop for motorists travelling to and from the Northwest Coast and as an important road safety pull-over point, can Council please advise:

1. Whether any correspondence or information has since been received from Waratah–Wynyard Council; and
2. What progress has been made regarding the design, functionality, and delivery of this upgrade.

Response: The project was followed up directly with State Growth and the project is being completed based on the following. Project commenced on the 19th of January and is due to be complete by June 2026 depending on weather impacts. Project plans have been requested for the project have will be circulated as soon as available. Initial inquiries with the Waratah Wynard Council have shown little consultation has occurred.

Question on Notice: Cr. McKay

Given that we are currently in the peak summer period, it is concerning that local children, families, and visitors are unable to safely access Dick Clarke’s Jetty for recreational use.

Located on the edge of Macquarie Harbour, this infrastructure has long served as an important and safe space for swimming, jumping, and water-based recreation, particularly for young people. It is a valued community asset and forms a significant part of growing up in Strahan, with many lifelong memories created at this site.

In light of its social, recreational, and safety importance, can Council please advise:

1. What assessment has been undertaken regarding the current condition and safety of Dick Clarke’s Jetty.
2. What plans are in place to restore the jetty to an appropriate standard; and
3. What timeframe is anticipated for it to again become a fully functioning and accessible community facility.

Response

1. What assessment has been undertaken regarding the current condition and safety of Dick Clarke’s Jetty?

Advice received from Marine and Safety Tasmania (this morning) indicates that the jetty is situated on Crown land. Formal confirmation of tenure and responsibility has been requested from NRE Property Services, including lease documentation to establish which entity holds statutory duty of care and maintenance responsibility for the structure.

Under standard Crown lease arrangements for coastal infrastructure, if Council is confirmed as lessee or licensee (which preliminary records strongly suggest), Council would ordinarily be responsible for:

- structural integrity
- inspection and maintenance
- public safety compliance
- asset risk management

If no lease exists, responsibility would typically revert to either:

- the Crown as landowner, or
- the entity that constructed and/or currently controls the structure.

At present, no recent structural or marine condition assessment reports have been provided. Until tenure and duty-holder status are formally confirmed, commissioning intrusive or specialist inspections would be premature.

2. What plans are in place to restore the jetty to an appropriate standard?

At this stage, no restoration works are scheduled because the responsible authority must first be legally confirmed.

Once responsibility is established, the next step would be development of a technical business case supported by specialist marine engineering investigations. Given the exposed marine environment and unknown structural condition, restoration would likely require a staged assessment program including:

- above-water structural inspection
- underwater pile and footing inspection by certified commercial divers
- hydrographic survey of seabed and scour conditions
- materials durability assessment (corrosion, marine borer attack, fatigue)
- load capacity and serviceability evaluation

Such works fall within specialist maritime/bridge engineering disciplines and typically require external consultants. Based on the likely complexity and cost, it is unlikely that full assessment and rehabilitation could be accommodated within the current FY2026 budget cycle without additional funding allocation or grant support.

3. What timeframe is anticipated for it to again become a fully functioning and accessible community facility?

At present, a timeframe cannot be reliably provided. Determining a reinstatement program requires:

1. confirmation of legal responsibility
2. allocation of investigation funding
3. completion of engineering assessments
4. design of remediation works
5. procurement and construction

Until structural condition is verified by qualified engineers, any timeframe would be speculative and not technically defensible.

The Mayor suggested that MAST will do all the preliminary work

46/26 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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

Questions Without Notice

Question on Notice: Cr McKay
<p>I have had several complaints about the paid parking in Strahan. What are we doing to address these issues?</p>
<p>Response: This issue has several components which we are trying to address.</p> <p>The LED screen on the parking meter was difficult to read and this led to some user errors. This has now been replaced.</p> <p>We have had several people make incorrect selections and have been overcharged. In every instance that we have become aware of we have refunded the overpayment.</p> <p>Due to poor reception, the machine is slow and some people believe it isn't working and they walk away.</p> <p>We encourage people to use the Easy Park application as this is the easiest and cheapest method to make payment. Some people have refused to take up this option.</p> <p>In the future we are asking the cruise operators to advise ticket purchasers to download the EasyPark application prior to arrival so that there is no "last minute" rush to pay for parking. If people use the application they can pay for their parking while sitting on the boat waiting for departure.</p> <p>We are also looking at clearer signage to assist the user experience.</p> <p>We have the same system in Queenstown and we have not experienced the above issues.</p>

47/26 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

48/26 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

49/26 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

Nil

51/26 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
10 th February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement Policy • Safeguarding Children & Young People Brief, Policy and Action Plan • Strahan Unleashed Doggie Park • Parkinson’s Australia Spark the night initiative • Unpaid Rates Round 3 • The Health Revolution – Tasmania’s 20-Year Preventative Health Strategy • Queenstown Men’s Shed
24 th February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unconformity Presentation • Waste Decision Report • Strahan Off Leash Dog Park • Signage Hedley Faull Park

52/26 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
Nick Andrew Manager, Strategy & Operations Office of the Valuer-General	Feedback to Proposed Changes in Supplementary Valuation Charges	N
Treasurer, Hon Eric Abetz MP	Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue	N
Integrity Commission Tasmania	Gifts and donations in local government – call for submissions	N
Resident	Strahan Waterfront	N
Premier of Tasmania, Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP	BreastScreen Access – West Coast	N
Correspondence OUT	Subject	Action Required
Mayor Shane Pitt	Gorse Encroachment Risk – Strahan and Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area	N
General Manager	Letter of Support – HDPE Shredder Application	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	Housing Consideration – Domestic and Family Violence Accommodation	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	Pathology Services – West Coast District Hospital	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	BreastScreen Access – West Coast	N
Mayor Shane Pitt	Special Council Meeting 5th February 2026	N
General Manager	Letter of Reference – The Unconformity, Australia - Japan Foundation	N

53/26 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

54/26 ORGANISTAIONAL REPORTS FOR NOTING

Noting Decision
That Council note the following reports.
Outcome: Noted

**55/26 REPORT - LEASE RENEWAL, ZEEHAN COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
– ZEEHAN COMMUNITY HALL**

Motion
That Council renew the lease with the Zeehan Community Christian Church for the Zeehan Community Hall for a further five (5) years.
Moved: Cr Graham
Seconded: Cr Newman
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
Against: Nil

56/26 REPORT - LEASE TO BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY AT STRAHAN AERODROME

Motion
That Council endorse the lease of part of the Strahan Aerodrome to the Bureau of Meteorology for the purposes of a weather station.
Moved: Cr Jordan
Seconded: Cr Hamer
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

57/26 REPORT - THE HEALTH REVOLUTION TASMANIA'S 20-YEAR PREVENTATIVE HEALTH STRATEGY

Motion
That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse response to be provided to The Hon Bridget Archer MP Minster for Health, Mental Health, and Wellbeing regarding <i>The Health Revolution Tasmania's 20-Year Preventative Health Strategy</i> 2. Draft response on behalf of West Coast Council Mayor Shane Pitt
Moved: Cr Graham
Seconded: Cr Butterfield
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

58/26 REPORT – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Motion
That Council endorse the 2026 Community Engagement Policy, Framework and Staff Toolkit updated as presented.
Moved: Cr Butterfield
Seconded: Cr Jordan
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

59/26 REPORT - WEST COAST SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY AND ACTION PLAN

Motion
That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse, Council policy WCC.024 V1 Safeguarding Children and Young People 2026 – 2030 and the Safeguarding Children and Young People Action Plan 2026-2030. 2. Continue to advocate, through the Local Government Association of Tasmania, for additional State Government support, to implement recommendations
Moved: Cr Iwanicki
Seconded: Cr McKay
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

60/26 REPORT - PARKINSON'S #SPARKTHENIGHT INITIATIVE

Motion
That Council endorse the lighting up of the Miner's Siding in Queenstown for the period of April 8-15 th 2026.
Moved: Cr Newman
Seconded: Cr Butterfield
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

61/26 REPORT - LEASE RENEWAL, ROSEBERY ATHLETICS CLUB – MEETING ROOM, ROSEBERY MEMORIAL HALL

Motion
That Council renew the lease with the Rosebery Athletics Club for the meeting room at the Rosebery Memorial Hall for a further five (5) years.
Moved: Cr Jordan
Seconded: Cr McKay
Outcome: Carried

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

62/26 MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CLOSED MEETING

Motion
That Council RESOLVE BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to go into Closed Session to discuss items from 63/26 to 75/26
Moved: Cr Hamer
Seconded: Cr Butterfield
Outcome: Carried

Item Number	Matter	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 (Meeting Closure Reference)
63/26	Confirmation of meeting Minutes	17 (2)(h)
65/26	Councillor Raised issues & information	17 (2)(h)
69/26	Council Decision Statuses Reports/Action Items	17 (2)(h)
70/26	Correspondence	17 (2)(h)
71/26	General Manager’s Certificate	17 (2)(h)
72/26	General Manager’s Report	17 (2)(h)
73/26	Report – Staff movements	17 (2) (a)
74/26	Report – Strategic Risk Update	17 (2) (b)
75/26	Open Meeting	17 (9)

For: Mayor Pitt, Cr Butterfield, Cr Newman, Cr Graham, Cr McKay, Cr Iwanicki, Cr Jordan, Cr Hamer
 Against: Nil

CLOSE OF MEETING, TIME BEING: 6.06PM