



Council Meeting **Minutes**

Wednesday 18
March 2026

Commencing at 7:02 pm

Wycheproof Supper Room
367 Broadway, Wycheproof

Daniel McLoughlan
Chief Executive Officer



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Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 March 2026.**CHAIRPERSON:**

Cr Graeme Milne (Mayor) Mount Jeffcott Ward

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Bernadette Hogan Mallee Ward
Cr Alan Getley Mallee Ward
Cr Stephen Barratt Lower Avoca Ward
Cr Bruce Stafford Lower Avoca Ward
Cr Charmaine Delaney Mount Jeffcott Ward

OFFICERS:

Daniel McLoughlan Chief Executive Officer
Paula Gardiner Acting Senior Manager Assets and Delivery
Jenna Allan Director Corporate and Organisational Performance
Gaynor Atkin Director Community Development
Anthony Smith Acting Manager Governance

1 COUNCIL WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**WELCOME**

The Mayor Cr Graeme Milne welcomed all in attendance.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor Cr Graeme Milne acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting and pay our respects to their Elders and to the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

2 RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**MOTION**

That Council adopt the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 February 2026.

MOVED: Cr Bernadette Hogan

SECONDED: Cr Alan Getley

CARRIED.

(R/26/8)

4 REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and conflicts of interest received.

6 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Council received no questions from the public for this Council Meeting.

Council received two (2) registrations for Public Participation in relation Item 8.2.1 Endorsement of Resource Ready North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy.

Margaret Stebbins presented to Council in relation to Item 8.2.1 Endorsement of Resource Ready North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy.

Judith Living presented to Council in relation to Item 8.2.1 Endorsement of Resource Ready North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy.

7 PROCEDURAL ITEMS

7.1 GOVERNANCE REPORT - MARCH 2026

Author's Title: Acting Manager Governance

Directorate: Corporate and Organisational Performance

File No: GO/05/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency, and governance matters.

The Governance report is prepared as a monthly report to Council.

The Governance report includes:

- Record of Councillor Assemblies and Meetings held from 5 February to 4 March 2026.
- Record of Councillor Briefings, at Attachment 1 to this report.
- Chief Executive Officer Activity Report.
- The Status of Actions Report for Council resolutions at Attachment 2 to this report.
- Contracts awarded in accordance with the increased Financial Delegation provided to the Chief Executive Officer.

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes the Record of Councillor Assemblies.
2. Notes the Record of the Councillor Briefing 4 March 2026 at Attachment 1 to this report.
3. Notes the Chief Executive Officer Activity Report.
4. Notes the Status of Actions Report for Council resolutions at Attachment 2 to this report.
5. Notes there were no contracts entered into for this period, in accordance with the increased Financial Delegation provided to the Chief Executive Officer of \$1,500,000 (excluding GST).

MOVED: Cr Stephen Barratt

SECONDED: Cr Bernadette Hogan

CARRIED.

(R/26/9)

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The Governance Report is prepared as a monthly report to Council to provide a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency, and governance matters.

In accordance with best practice principles of good governance practice, and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*, this report incorporates matters including records of meetings held, organised or hosted by Council, items relating to the delegation of Council powers and duties, and policy and strategy reporting.

Record of Councillor Assemblies and Meetings held from 5 February to 4 March 2026

Records of matters discussed at meetings organised or hosted by Buloke Shire Council that involve Councillors and Council officers are kept in accordance with the Governance Rules.

Meeting records must include attendees, including organisations represented by external presenters; the title of matters discussed; and any conflicts of interests disclosed and whether the declarant of a conflict of interest excused themselves from the meeting.

It is noted that the summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held in February 2026 will be included in the governance report presented to the April Council Meeting.

Record of Councillor Assemblies:

Date/Time/Venue	Councillor Attendees	Meeting Type
11/02/2026 2:00pm <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>	Cr Milne, Cr Barratt, Cr Delaney	Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
18/02/2026 7:00pm <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>	Cr Hogan, Cr Barratt, Cr Stafford, Cr Delaney, Cr Getley	Council Meeting
25/02/2026 10:00am <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>	Cr Milne, Cr Hogan, Cr Getley, Cr Stafford, Cr Barratt, Cr Delaney	FY27 Annual Budget: Councillor Workshop 1
4/03/2026 5:00pm <i>Nandaly Hall</i>	Cr Milne, Cr Hogan, Cr Stafford, Cr Getley, Cr Barratt	Councillor Briefing

Chief Executive Officer Activity Report from 5 February to 4 March 2026

Record of meetings attended by the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of the Buloke Shire Council. Activity record includes the date, activity, and location.

Daniel McLoughlan – Chief Executive Officer (5 February to 4 March 2026)		
Date	Activity	Location
06/02/2026	WSMCA Strategic Dates	Online
09/02/2026	Radio – Gold FM	Radio
09/02/2026	Across Victoria Alliance Inaugural Conference	Horsham
10/02/2026	Wyche Alive Inc - Town Forum	Wycheproof
11/02/2026	Meeting with Jade Benham MP	Online
11/02/2026	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	Wycheproof
12/02/2026	GWM Tourism Pre-Board Meeting Discussion	Online
12/02/2026	Resource Ready (Northwest Victorian Renewables-Mining Readiness Strategy)	Online

12/02/2026	WSMCA CEO Meeting	Online
16/02/2026	Radio – Gold FM	Radio
18/02/2026	Rural Councils Victoria Training, Networking and State Election Platform Launch	Melbourne
20/02/2026	Resource Readiness Study - Communication and Governance Support	Online
20/02/2026	Charlton Fire Discussion	Online
23/02/2026	Radio – Gold FM	Radio
24/02/2026	Meeting with Dr Anne Webster MP	Birchip
25/02/2026	FY27 Annual Budget: Councillor Workshop 1	Wycheproof
25/02/2026	CEO and Councillor Only Time	Wycheproof
26/02/2026	Maddocks & YSC Briefing - MBS Shared Services Tender	Online
27/02/2026	Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils	Bendigo
27/02/2026	Weather Update and Readiness Planning - Potential for Severe Storms	Online
04/03/2026	CEO online meeting prior to WSMCA and Westerns REZ Councils meetings	Online
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing	Nandaly

Status of Action of past Council Meeting Resolutions

To provide Council with a list of the Status of Action of Council resolutions outstanding for completion of action since the last Council Meeting.

Audit and Risk Committee Minutes

A summary of the minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held Wednesday, 11 February 2026 will be presented in the governance report for the April Council Meeting.

Exercise of Delegated Authority

Council delegates powers, duties and functions to the Chief Executive Officer to support the efficient operation and delivery of Council services.

The Chief Executive Officer has been delegated authority by Council to award contracts up to \$300,000 (exclusive of GST) through an Instrument of Delegation made on 29 October 2025 (S5 Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer).

Council at its meeting held Wednesday, 17 December 2025 resolved as follows:

That Council:

- 1) *Increase the Financial delegation provided to the Chief Executive Officer from \$300,000 (excluding GST) to \$1,500,000 (excluding GST).*
- 2) *Authorised the Chief Executive Officer to exercise the increased financial delegation of \$1,500,000 (excluding GST) for the procurement of goods, services and works only when the following conditions are satisfied:*
 - a. *Contracts and works are directly related to projects associated with the 2022 and 2023 flood events, namely:*
 - i. *AGRN 1037 (October 2022 Flooding Event).*
 - ii. *AGRN 1096 (December 2023 Flooding Event).*
 - b. *Council Flood Support Fund Approved Works Schedule (AGRN 1037, AGRN 1096, AGRN 1108).*

- c. Funded flood studies and Laser imaging Detection and Ranging projects (funded due to the 2022 and 2023 flood events).*
- 3) *Receive a report at the next available Council Meeting clearly identifying each Contract awarded via exercising of the temporary increased financial delegation.*
- 4) *Authorises the temporary increase of the CEO financial delegation up to 30 June 2027, or earlier by resolution of Council.*

No contracts to be reported.

- Attachments:**
1. Attachment 7.1.1 - Councillor Briefing Record - 4 March 2026
 2. Attachment 7.1.2 - Council Resolution SOA Final version tabled - 18 March 2026

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 POLICY REPORTS

Nil

8.2 MANAGEMENT REPORTS

8.2.1 ENDORSEMENT OF RESOURCE READY NORTH-WESTERN VICTORIA ENERGY AND MINING IMPACT AND READINESS STRATEGY

Author's Title: Director Corporate and Organisational Performance

Directorate: Corporate and Organisational Performance **File No:** EN/19/06

Relevance to Council Plan 2025 - 2029

Strategic Council leadership and engagement

Objective: Responsible leadership and decision making

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Resource Ready: North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy.

SUMMARY

The Resource Ready North-Western Victoria energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy (the Strategy) provides an independent analysis of the potential impacts from \$27.7 billion in planned transmission, renewable energy, and mining projects across nine north-western Victorian councils.

The Strategy identifies that potential scale of renewable energy infrastructure and mining across the study area and identifies the significant workforce demands including 9,100 construction jobs and 2,300 ongoing operational roles, alongside critical challenges such as severe housing shortages, labour market constraints, infrastructure pressures, and potential impacts on the region's agricultural sector. The Strategy outlines 49 actions under 11 key themes to prepare the region, maximise community benefits, and reduce negative impacts if major projects are approved by State and Federal governments.

MOTION

That Council:

1. Endorse the Resource Ready: North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy;
2. Commit to working with key stakeholders to implement the Strategy's recommended actions in partnership with other Study Area councils, State Government, and stakeholders;
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to advocate to State and Federal government, where appropriate, for funding to implement priority actions identified in the Strategy; and
4. Note that successful implementation requires substantial external funding and regional coordination beyond Council's existing resources.
5. Note if adopted, to fully promote this Strategy to the wider community.

MOVED: Cr Alan Getley

SECONDED: Cr Stephen Barratt

CARRIED.

(R/26/10)

DISCUSSION

Council's endorsement of the Strategy would not constitute support for or opposition to any specific project. Rather, endorsement reflects Council's commitment to fulfilling its statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020* to plan strategically for the community's economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

The Strategy equips Council with the evidence base necessary to assess mining and renewable energy projects comprehensively, advocate effectively for State and Federal funding to address readiness gaps, coordinate with regional partners, and engage meaningfully with the community about potential changes.

Implementation fundamentally depends on significant external funding that exceeds the Council's current resources. Endorsement provides a foundation for obtaining this support from higher levels of government and project proponents, without obligating the Council to independently finance all recommended actions.

The Strategy adopts an impartial, analytical approach, prioritizing preparedness and impact management rather than promoting or opposing the energy and mining transition, specific technologies, or particular project approvals.

Nine councils (Buloke, Gannawarra, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Loddon, Northern Grampians, Swan Hill, West Wimmera, and Yarriambiack) commissioned an independent Strategy to assess the impacts of:

- VNI West transmission project (\$7.1bn) and transmission upgrades (\$3.37bn)
- 33 renewable energy projects (13GW+ generation capacity) and
- 22 mining projects (mineral sands, gold, rare earth elements)

The Study Area covers 58,503 sq km (26% of Victoria) with a population of approximately 93,100 and 42,300 jobs.

Key Findings

The economic impacts identified are summarised as follows:

- Total capital expenditure: \$27.7 billion
- Construction phase: 9,000 FTE jobs over time, peaking at ~4,000 workers (10% increase in regional employment)
- Operational phase: 2,300 ongoing jobs (80% expected locally)
- Annual operational expenditure: \$888 million (67% locally captured)

The critical challenges are summarised as follows:

- Labour shortages: Our regions are currently experiencing very high workforce participation (92-97% for ages 25-54) and low unemployment (<4.5%), which limits local capacity.
- Housing crisis: Extremely low rental vacancy (0-1.2%), declining rental stock, and low development feasibility.
- Infrastructure pressure: Local roads, telecommunications, water supply, and electricity networks under strain.
- Agricultural impacts: Competition for labour, water, and land from major projects threatens the region's primary economic driver.
- Community readiness: Growing uncertainty and opposition to projects affecting social cohesion.
- Council capacity: Low rate bases and resource constraints limit ability to assess and respond to major projects.

The Strategy proposes 49 actions across 11 themes. High priority actions include:

- Community Readiness
- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Labour
- Local Government resources
- Agriculture
- Community Benefits
- Economic Development

The successful implementation of the Strategy requires significant State and Federal government funding.

Why is the Strategy Important?

Council lacks statutory authority over mining and renewable energy project approvals, which are handled by State and Federal governments through channels like Environmental Effects Statements and ministerial or mining license decisions. Nonetheless, Council must assess referrals, comment on local impacts, engage communities, plan for services and infrastructure, and advocate for regional interests. The Strategy provides an evidence-based framework for assessing regional impacts, readiness gaps, and resource needs to ensure reliable service provision during transitions.

Many renewable energy, transmission, and mining projects in the region are at varied stages of investigation and approval. Should major projects gain necessary approvals, Council must manage their impacts and benefits for current and future generations—a responsibility mandated by the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Strategy's 49 actions focus on regional readiness, housing, workforce development, infrastructure, agriculture, community engagement, resourcing, and benefit-sharing, regardless of specific project outcomes or timelines.

The Strategy does not promote or oppose energy transition, technologies, or individual projects, but objectively analyses potential regional change (\$23.9 billion identified projects), economic impacts (up to 9,000 construction jobs and 2,300 ongoing operational jobs), and necessary actions to protect community wellbeing and deliver lasting benefits.

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires strategic planning for municipal sustainability. While population projections show decline, the Strategy highlights that large-scale project construction could require thousands of additional workers, intensifying demands on housing, infrastructure, and services. Without strategic preparation, Council would be unable to effectively address these impacts in its plans and budgets.

Endorsement of the Strategy enables Council to:

- Incorporate evidence-based scenarios into strategic and financial planning documents that account for potential major project impacts alongside business-as-usual trends.
- Advocate from an informed position for State and Federal funding to address regional readiness gaps, armed with rigorous analysis of infrastructure, housing, and service needs.
- Fulfill assessment obligations for major project referrals with comprehensive understanding of cumulative regional impacts rather than assessing each project in isolation.
- Engage meaningfully with communities about potential changes, impacts, and opportunities using credible regional analysis rather than speculation.
- Coordinate regionally with the eight other Study Area councils facing similar challenges, achieving efficiencies and greater advocacy influence through alignment.
- Demonstrate prudent governance by planning proactively for potential futures rather than responding reactively to circumstances as they develop.

Funding Implications

The Strategy notes that implementing its actions needs substantial external funding and regional coordination beyond Council's current resources. Endorsement sets a framework for advocating to State

and Federal governments and project proponents for support, rather than obligating Council to fund or deliver all 49 actions. Council focuses on identifying needs, coordinating partners, and seeking appropriate funding, not covering all costs.

The analysis warns of risks if major projects lack proper preparation: labour shortages in agriculture and services, increased housing demand from construction workers, deteriorating roads, overstressed infrastructure, and weakened community cohesion due to poor engagement and benefit-sharing.

Endorsement of Strategy

Council's endorsement of the Strategy signals its commitment to collaborating with all government levels and industry to minimise risks and maximise benefits if major projects proceed after State and Federal approvals.

It is important to note that;

- Approval decisions for transmission, renewable energy, or mining projects are made at higher government levels, not by Council.
- Regional impacts, such as those affecting shared infrastructure, labour, and housing, can be missed in individual assessments. Taking a holistic regional approach benefits all Councils.
- Regional preparation is crucial; without it, communities may experience negative effects if projects advance.
- The Strategy supplies evidence needed for effective advocacy in State and Federal processes.
- Council maintains obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020* to plan for community needs, provide services and infrastructure, and ensure financial health regardless of project positions.

By adopting the Strategy, Council demonstrates responsible governance by preparing for potential changes, ensuring community wellbeing, and fulfilling statutory duties in line with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020

Council's endorsement of the Resource Ready: North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy (the 'Strategy') represents a pragmatic and responsible approach to governance in a period of potential significant regional transformation.

It is important to clarify that endorsement of this Strategy does not constitute Council's support for any specific energy or mining project. Rather, endorsement reflects Council's commitment to fulfilling its obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 to "*provide good governance in its municipal district for the benefit and wellbeing of the municipal community*" regardless of what decisions are ultimately made by State and Federal approval authorities regarding major projects in the region.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable

OPTIONS

1. That Council does not endorse the Resource Ready: North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy and directs the CEO to:
 - a) Advise the other Study Area councils and project sponsors of Council's decision not to endorse the Strategy;
 - b) Continue fulfilling Council's statutory assessment and referral obligations for major projects through business-as-usual processes;

- c) Discontinue Council's participation in the Resource Ready project governance and coordination structures;
- d) Remove any reference to the Resource Ready Strategy from Council's strategic planning documents, Council Plan, and public communications.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Significant land use changes are proposed for the regions which will diversify the economy. Failure to adequately prepare for these changes may result in considerable adverse impacts on the region, limiting the ability of Council and the community to capitalise on potential benefits. Without proper readiness, only negative outcomes may occur.

Failure to plan for and address housing demands could have negative impacts on housing affordability and availability which is already stretched.

Collective advocacy to State and Federal Government, supported by evidence-based research, is advantageous for securing funding to proactively address and prepare for forthcoming changes.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Strategy was jointly developed by nine councils - Buloke, Gannawarra, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Loddon, Northern Grampians, Swan Hill, West Wimmera, and Yarriambiack, through the commissioning of independent regional analysis. Targeted consultation was undertaken with Regional Development Victoria, Wimmera Southern Mallee Development, VicGrid, and project proponents.

Effective implementation depends on sustained collaboration with State agencies and regional stakeholders, supported by significant external funding and coordination beyond the capacity of any single council. This approach reflects the reality that major project approvals sit with State and Federal governments, and that pressures on labour supply, housing, and infrastructure can only be addressed through coordinated, cross-boundary action.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable

COLLABORATION

Collaboration has been achieved through the development of the strategy by the nine Councils- Buloke, Gannawarra, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Loddon, Northern Grampians, Swan Hill, West Wimmera, and Yarriambiack.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

In accordance with the discussion part of this report.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

[Victorian Transmission Plan](#)

[Economic Growth Victoria | vic.gov.au](#) – Economic Growth Statement

Wimmera Southern Mallee - [Regional Economic Development Strategies \(REDS\) - Regional Development Victoria](#)

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 - 2029

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

Attachments: 1. Attachment 8.2.1.1 - Resource Ready - February 2026

MOTION

That Council allow Standing Orders be suspended to enable some additional community discussion in relation to the Endorsement of Resource Ready North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy.

MOVED: Cr Alan Getley

SECONDED: Cr Bernadette Hogan

CARRIED.

(R/26/11)

7:27 pm *Standing Orders were suspended*

MOTION

That Council allow Standing Orders be resumed.

MOVED: Cr Alan Getley

SECONDED: Cr Bernadette Hogan

CARRIED.

(R/26/12)

7:54 pm *Standing Orders resumed.*

8.3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Nil

8.4 ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

Nil

8.5 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Lower Avoca Ward

Name: Cr Stephen Barratt

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
11/02/2026	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
11/02/2026	VicGrid Meeting
11/02/2026	Donald High School Student Leaders Induction Ceremony - <i>Donald</i>
18/02/2026	Council Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
26/02/2026	Charlton Fire Station 95 th Birthday Celebration
27/02/2026	Men's Shed - <i>Wycheproof</i>
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>

Name: Cr Bruce Stafford

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
17/02/2026	Charlton Forum Meeting
18/02/2026	Council Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
19/02/2026	CVGA Board Meeting
23/02/2026	Coffee with a Councillor – <i>Charlton Neighbourhood House</i>
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	CEO and Councillor Only Time – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
26/02/2026	Charlton Fire Station 95 th Birthday Celebration
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>

Mallee Ward

Name: Cr Alan Getley

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
09/02/2026	Sea Lake Badge Conferral
09/02/2026	Culgoa Development Group Meeting
10/02/2026	Nullawil Progress Association Meeting

11/02/2026	VicGrid Meeting
17/02/2026	CRG Vic Grid Meeting – <i>Charlton</i>
18/02/2026	Council Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	CEO and Councillor Only Time – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
26/02/2026	Charlton Fire Station 95 th Birthday Celebration
27/02/2026	WSM RTG Meeting - <i>Horsham</i>
02/03/2026	Advance Sea Lake Meeting
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>

Name: Cr Bernadette Hogan

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop - <i>Wycheproof</i>
11/02/2026	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
03/03/2026	Sunraysia Highway Improvement Committee – <i>(Teams Online)</i>
04/03/2026	Council Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>
06/03/2026	Women’s World Day of Prayer Celebration – <i>Birchip</i>
07/03/2026	Mali Heart Street Art Festival - <i>Birchip</i>
08/03/2026	‘Running of the Bulls’ Birchip Annual Trots Meeting – <i>Birchip</i>

Mount Jeffcott Ward

Name: Cr Charmaine Delaney

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
11/02/2026	Donald High School Student Leaders Induction Ceremony - <i>Donald</i>
12/02/2026	ALGWA CEO and Councillor Dynamis Training
18/02/2026	Council Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
23/02/2026	Buloke Tourism Board Meeting – <i>Donald Chambers</i>
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	CEO and Councillor Only Time – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	Donald Family Precinct Meeting
25/02/2026	Donald 2000 Meeting
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>

Name: Cr Graeme Milne

Date: 5 February 2026 – 4 March 2026

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting / Event
08/02/2026	Across Victoria Alliance Inaugural Conference - <i>Horsham</i>
09/02/2026	Across Victoria Alliance Inaugural Conference - <i>Horsham</i>
10/02/2026	Rail Freight Alliance – Budget
11/02/2026	Donald High School Student Leaders Induction Ceremony - <i>Donald</i>
11/02/2026	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
11/02/2026	Watchem Hall Annual Meeting
13/02/2026	Rail Freight Alliance AGM - <i>Melbourne</i>
16/02/2026	Birchip Forum Meeting
18/02/2026	Rural Councils Victoria Training, Networking and State Election Platform Launch - <i>Melbourne</i>
23/02/2026	Buloke Tourism Board Meeting – <i>Donald Chambers</i>
25/02/2026	Councillor Budget Workshop – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	CEO and Councillor Only Time – <i>Wycheproof Supper Room</i>
25/02/2026	Donald Family Precinct Meeting
25/02/2026	Donald 2000 Meeting
26/02/2026	Charlton Fire Station 95 th Birthday Celebration
27/02/2026	Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils - <i>Bendigo</i>
04/03/2026	Councillor Briefing – <i>Nandaly Hall</i>

9 OTHER BUSINESS**9.1 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

9.2 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

9.3 URGENT BUSINESS**9.3.1 ENERGY AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (RESILIENCE REFORMS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2026**

Cr Alan Getley raised an item of urgent business regarding the Energy and Other Legislation Amendment (Resilience Reforms and Other Matters) Bill 2026.

MOTION

That Council admits an item of urgent business that relates to a motion regarding the Energy and Other Legislation Amendment (Resilience Reforms and Other Matters) Bill 2026.

MOVED: Cr Alan Getley**SECONDED: Cr Charmaine Delaney****CARRIED.****(R/26/13)****MOTION**

That Council:

1. Condemn, in the strongest possible terms, the Minister for Energy and Resources and the Victorian Parliament for passing legislation to allow compulsory acquisition of easements for electricity transmission lines prior to the conclusion of the Environment Effects Statement for VNI West.
2. Request that the Minister, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and VicGrid engage with Buloke Shire Council in a genuine, open and constructive manner to understand our community's concerns about energy projects in the Shire.
3. Write to the Minister detailing Council's disappointment in the way Councillors and ratepayers have been treated and seeking genuine engagement in the future.

MOVED: Cr Charmaine Delaney**SECONDED: Cr Alan Getley****CARRIED.****(R/26/14)**

9.4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

9.5 MATTERS WHICH MAY EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Nil

10 MEETING CLOSE

Meeting closed at 8:09pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be held in Wycheproof Hall Supper Room on 15 April 2026 at 7:00pm.