



CITY OF HOBART

# MINUTES

THE HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN PORTION

MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2026



City of **HOBART**

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS

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**The Hobart Workshop Committee Meeting (Open Portion) held on Monday,  
1 June 2026 at 4.00pm in the Lady Osborne Room.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Councillor G H Kitsos (Chairperson)  
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Dr Z E Sherlock  
Councillor J L Kelly  
Alderman L A Bloomfield  
Councillor R J Posselt  
Councillor B Lohberger

**NOMINEE MEMBERS:**

Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds  
Alderman M Zucco  
Councillor W F Harvey  
Councillor M S C Dutta  
Councillor W N S Coats

**PRESENT:**

Councillor G H Kitsos (Chairperson)  
Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds  
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Dr Z E Sherlock  
Councillor W F Harvey  
Councillor M S C Dutta  
Councillor J L Kelly  
Alderman L A Bloomfield  
Councillor R J Posselt  
Councillor B Lohberger

**APOLOGIES:**

Alderman M Zucco

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Nil

In accordance with clause 4.6 of the Terms of Reference, the Chief Executive Officer appointed The Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds as a member of the Committee to fill a Committee member vacancy.

In accordance with clause 5.3 of the Terms of Reference, the Chief Executive Officer appointed Councillor W F Harvey and Councillor M S C Dutta as members of the Committee.

**QUORUM:**

There were 9 Elected Members present during the Open Portion of the meeting, therefore the quorum was set at 5.

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Sherlock arrived at the meeting at 4.06pm and was not present for items 1 to 6.1.

Councillor Posselt arrived at the meeting at 4.06pm and was not present for items 1 to 6.1.

The Lord Mayor left the meeting at 4.53pm, returning at 4.56pm.

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Sherlock left the meeting at 5.21pm, returning at 5.24pm.

Councillor Posselt left the meeting at 5.35pm, returning at 5.37pm.

Councillor Harvey left the meeting at 6.00pm, returning at 6.05pm.

Councillor Kelly left the meeting at 6.11pm, returning at 6.14pm.

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**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chairperson provided an acknowledgement of Country.

## **2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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DUTTA

The minutes of the Open Portion of the Hobart Workshop Committee meeting held on [Monday, 18 May 2026](#), be confirmed as an accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

### VOTING RECORD

AYES

NOES

Kitsos  
Lord Mayor Reynolds  
Harvey  
Dutta  
Kelly  
Bloomfield  
Lohberger

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION:**

The minutes were signed.

## **3. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

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Ref: Part 2, Regulation 10(7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

### **Recommendation**

That the Committee resolve to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the Chief Executive Officer.

No supplementary items were received.

## **4. INDICATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

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Ref: Part 2, Regulation 10(8) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

Elected Members are requested to indicate where they may have, or are likely to have, an interest in the agenda.

No interest was indicated.

## 5. TRANSFER OF AGENDA ITEMS

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Regulation 17 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

A Committee may close a part of a meeting to the public where a matter to be discussed falls within 17(2) of the above regulations.

In the event that the Committee transfers an item to the closed portion, the reasons for doing so should be stated.

Are there any items which should be transferred from this agenda to the closed portion of the agenda, or from the closed to the open portion of the agenda?

No items were transferred.

## 6. REPORTS

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### 6.1 Submission - Modernising the Residential Tenancy Act 1997 File Ref: F26/25630; 26/8

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REYNOLDS

That the recommendation contained within the officer report, marked as item 6.1 of the Open Hobart Workshop Committee Agenda of 1 June 2026, be adopted, with the alteration to second dot point under item 1.3.2 of the officers report to read as follows:

*Reforms should be evidence-based and supported by a clear rationale demonstrating their potential to substantially increase rental supply or create incentives for investment.*

MOTION CARRIED

### VOTING RECORD

AYES

NOES

Kitsos  
Lord Mayor Reynolds  
Harvey  
Dutta  
Kelly  
Bloomfield  
Lohberger

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION:**

That:

1. Subject to the correction of the error in the second dot point under item 1.3.2 of the officers report to read as follows:

*Reforms should be evidence-based and supported by a clear rationale demonstrating their potential to substantially increase rental supply or create incentives for investment.*

The Hobart Workshop Committee endorse the City of Hobart's submission on the '*Modernising the Residential Tenancy Act 1997 Discussion Paper*', as set out in Attachment A, of the Open Hobart Workshop Committee Agenda of 1 June 2026, for lodgement with the Department of Justice.

2. The submission be published on the City's website upon lodgement.

Delegation: Committee

## 7. ITEMS FOR WORKSHOPPING

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The City of Hobart utilises the workshop forum as allowed under the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* as a mechanism to receive information in relation to specific matters.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Committee, any matter that is listed on the agenda for workshopping may not be the subject of a Committee decision, other than a resolution that the item be noted.

The following people provided a deputation to the Committee on the Wellesley Park Dog Off-Lead Exercise Area – Community Engagement Outcomes

- Tanzi Lewis (Representing Hobart Dog Walking Association)
- Amanda Sinclair (Representing Lucy Musik)
- Dr Jennifer Connor
- Dr Katrina Ward

### 7.1 Wellesley Park Dog Off-Lead Exercise Area - Community Engagement Outcomes File Ref: F26/26724

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David Reeve, Director Infrastructure and Assets and Sean Black Manager Open Space provided a presentation on Wellesley Park Submissions.

#### **The following was discussed:**

Elected members were pleased that the engagement was undertaken with the community and noted that the community is strongly opposed to a fenced off-lead dog exercise area at Lower Wellesley Park. It was noted that there was a total of 185 submissions received; 32 responders provided positive feedback and 133 provided negative feedback on Lower Wellesley Park.

The following was agreed:

- not to proceed with construction of a fenced off-lead dog exercise area at Lower Wellesley Park at this time.
- that the \$30,000 previously allocated for fencing improvements at the Upper Wellesley Oval remain available and be progressed, consistent with its original purpose of reducing wildlife access and damage to the playing surface.
- that the proposed works to Upper Wellesley Oval does not alter existing dog access arrangements, the oval continue to operate as an off-lead area outside of organised sporting use, and the improved fencing may also improve functionality of the space for dog exercise.

It was noted that the Lower Wellesley Park oval was only 2,000m<sup>2</sup>, there is no dedicated parking, no toilets or lighting, steep access from all points and limited shelter and shade. Therefore officers are now proposing that Upper Wellesley Park be used. Upper Wellesley Park Oval is 6 times larger (being 12,420m<sup>2</sup>) and has parking, toilets, lighting and an existing fence that is improvable.

The reasons for not recommending Upper Wellesley Park Oval in the first place was discussed.

Elected members discussed how the change of focus from Lower Wellesley Park (to Upper Wellesley Park) may affect the following Council decision on 23/02/2026 and if the change of location invalidates the decision:

7. *A fenced off-lead dog park at Lower Wellesley Park, South Hobart be constructed as soon as possible, to enable it to be used by 1 July 2026, with this to be funded as part of the City's 2025/26 Capital Works Program at a cost of \$180,000.*

It was agreed that the Chief Executive Officer will seek advice on the validity of the decision.

Elected Members are keen to ensure that there is a facility open to dog walkers from 1/7/2026 and noted that the intent is for this to come back to Council in June.

#### **Attachments**

A 7.1 Wellesley Park Presentation ⇒ 

## 7.2 Winter Events 2026

**File Ref: F26/24263; 24/47**

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Justyne Wilson, Manager Creative City and Kane Forbes, Acting Co-ordinator Events provided a presentation on Winter Events 2026.

### **The following was discussed:**

Elected Members expressed strong interest in the “Gig in a Box” initiative, which involves portable event equipment stored in a shipping container that can be transported to different locations to support pop-up and community events. They discussed the importance of branding the container and delivering a coordinated media campaign when the initiative becomes operational.


Members noted a range of festivals scheduled in Hobart over winter, including Dark Mofo (11–22 June), Festival of Voices (3–12 July), Festival of Bright Ideas (3–12 July), Beaker Street (6–17 August), and the Australian Antarctic Festival (20–23 August). Opportunities for collaboration between the Festival of Bright Ideas, Beaker Street and the Australian Antarctic Festival were discussed, along with whether winter is the most appropriate time for science-focused festivals. It was suggested that autumn may be a better fit.

Discussion also focused on the Live and Local program and the importance of supporting the night-time economy, including musicians, artists and venue operators. Key deliverables include a local forum and a micro festival model, which could involve pop-up activations or laneway events across multiple venues, allowing a range of artists to participate. The potential to coordinate bands across several venues was also considered.

Members discussed the My Street program, including whether events are intended primarily for local residents or broader audiences. It was noted that smaller events, such as those in Forbes Street and Fern Tree, will remain locally focused and will not be advertised. Larger events, including Wellesley Park and John Doggett Park, will cater for higher attendance and include traffic management, accessible parking and drop-off arrangements. Members also acknowledged that the four events selected were the best concepts and ideas put forward by the communities through an expression of interest process.

The need to keep city venues refreshed and updated was also discussed.

### **Attachments**

A 7.1 - Overview 2026 Winter Events ⇨ 

### **7.3 Future State of Parking** **File Ref: F26/27089**

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Ben Artup, Director Community and Economic Development and Andrew Pike, Parking Services Manager gave a presentation on the Future State of Parking.

#### **The following was discussed:**

Common complaints received in relation to the current parking meters arrangements are: that the screen is difficult to read; and the meters are not easy to use.

The 'easy use' of the new parking meters technology was discussed and it was recommended that before all of the equipment is purchased and installed, that the City test the 'easiness of use' with about 100 people from the community with a mix of different ages and different levels of IT skills to get a true understanding of how easy the technology is to use.

How people pay for parking was also discussed. It was noted that there are a range of options available including a parking App, QR codes and that a cash payment option for parking meters must remain.

Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) was discussed, it was noted that the State Government needs to change legislation to allow for LPR to be used more effectively. It was noted Devonport Council uses LPR, but the person using the car park has to enter their licence plate number and the bay number into the meter they parked in, as is required by the existing "pay by bay" legislative requirements. It was also noted that the current counter system in the Argyle Street car park is not accurately reflecting available spaces.

The need for the parking system to be future proofed was discussed along with the need to ensure that the software is non-proprietary.

Elected Members also discussed wayfinding and expressed support for the installation of signs showing all parking availability in all council owned car parks at strategic locations across City.

Elected Members noted that the overall cost of implementing new parking technology will become clearer following completion of the tender process.

The opportunity to introduce incentive schemes for frequent city parking was also discussed, such as offering a free parking session after multiple visits or linking parking to retail rewards (e.g. a free coffee). In addition, Elected Members discussed the potential to review current parking fees.

#### **Attachments**

A 7.3 - Future State of Parking ⇨ 

## **8. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

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Regulations 33 and 34 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.  
File Ref: 13-1-10

### **8.1 Councillor Dutta - Two Commissioners**

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Question: With regards to the two night time Commissioners who were here recently, how was it organised, who paid for it and how did it come about?

Response: The Director Community and Economic Development advised that it came about because he went to the National Night-time Economy Conference in Sydney last year and met John Collins (Night-Life Economy Commissioner for Queensland) and Michael Rodrigues, (24-Hour Economy Commissioner, NSW). Both are doing some interesting work that the City of Hobart could learn from. They were invited to Hobart last week to talk about what they do. The City paid for their flights and accommodation and a dinner (approximately \$2500) and they gave their time for free.

### **8.2 Councillor Posselt - Parking Inspectors Gift Vouchers**

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Question: In terms of the governance of the gift voucher that the parking inspectors are giving out, what is its origins and how is it going?

Response: The Director Community and Economic Development advised that the City launched this initiative last week. It is a gift card / promotional program initiative where parking inspectors can hand out free parking.

### **8.3 Councillor Posselt - Volunteers**

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Question: Follow-up question in relation to Parking Inspectors Gift Vouchers, would you consider giving a gift card (for free parking) to community volunteers and neighbourhood watch and community associations at various locations, rather than to random people parked?

Response: The Chief Executive Officer noted that a key benefit of the program is that parking inspectors are seen as making a positive contribution to the community, rather than being solely associated with issuing fines.

#### **8.4 Councillor Posselt - Legal Costs for an Elected Member**

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Question: In February, I asked about legal costs involving an elected member, just wondering when that response will be coming forward?

Response: The Chief Executive Officer took the question on notice.

#### **8.5 Lord Mayor Councillor Reynolds - Fire Breaks**

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Question: At a recent workshop or briefing, it was suggested that we should be doubling or tripling the size of our fire breaks. Can we get a rough estimate on how much this is likely to cost?

Response: The Chief Executive Officer took the question on notice.

#### **8.6 Alderman Bloomfield - Nature Strip Competition**

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Question: About two or three years ago, the Council was looking at running a competition on nature strips. Can we plan to run this competition in Spring this year?

Response: Chief Executive Officer advised that he will take the question on notice.

### **9. CLOSED PORTION OF THE MEETING**

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DUTTA

That the Committee resolve by majority that the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to regulation 17(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* because the items included on the closed agenda contain the following matters:

- Minutes of a Closed Portion of the Committee Meeting
- Confidential Information
- Closed Questions without Notice

The following items were discussed: -

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Item No. 1 | Minutes of the last meeting of the Closed Portion of the Committee Meeting |
| Item No. 2 | Consideration of supplementary items to the agenda                         |
| Item No. 3 | Indications of conflicts of interest                                       |
| Item No. 4 | Draft 2026-27 Annual Plan and Budget                                       |
| Item No. 5 | Questions Without Notice   |

MOTION CARRIED  
BY MAJORITY

VOTING RECORD

AYES

Lord Mayor Reynolds  
Deputy Lord Mayor Sherlock  
Harvey  
Dutta  
Kelly  
Bloomfield  
Posselt  
Lohberger  
Kitsos

NOES

There being no further business the Open portion of the meeting closed at 6.17pm.

TAKEN AS READ AND SIGNED AS  
A CORRECT RECORD THIS  
15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2026.

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**CHAIRPERSON**