ORDINARY MEETING 29 JULY 2026	5.7

MINUTES AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING – 14 JULY 2026

POP | 65/4/1 | #7907952

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accepts the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held 14 July 2026.

INTERESTED PARTIES:

- BDO
- Grant Thornton

Note: The identification of interested parties is provided on a best endeavours basis by Council Officers and may not be exhaustive.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The minutes of each Audit Committee meeting are tabled with Council together with a report identifying any recommendations arising from the Audit Committee. There were no recommendations from the Audit Committee.

The last meeting of Council's Audit Committee was held on 14 July 2026 and the unconfirmed minutes of this meeting are included as an attachment.

OPTIONS:

1. That Council accepts the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held 14 July 2026.

2. That Council does not accept the Audit Committee meeting minutes and requests Council officers provide further details.

ATTACHMENTS:

Audit Committee Meeting Minutes 14 July 2026 #7912212

Holly Mc Bride
Director, People & Organisational Performance

MEETING: AUDIT COMMITTEE

M I N U T E S

TUESDAY 14 JULY 2026
COMMENCING AT 2:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Committee Members	Mr Michael Wenzel – via Teams Mr Peter Phillips Mayor Amy Eden Councillor Brett Moller Councillor Trevor Tim
In Attendance	Mr Andrew Cornes – Grant Thornton Mr Sri Narasimhan – QAO Mr Mitchell Witt – BDO Mr Ken Gouldthorp – Chief Executive Officer (part) Mr Mark Wuth – Director Cairns Infrastructure & Assets (part) Ms Lisa Whitton – Chief Financial Officer Ms Holly Mc Bride - Director People & Organisational Performance Mr Jason Ritchie – Executive Manager Finance Mr Andrew Hodson – Quality, Risk & Compliance Advisor Ms Sue Godkin – Minute Taker
Apologies	Mr Edan Clark – Grant Thornton

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1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Mr Edan Clark – Grant Thornton

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Nil

3. MINUTES - AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING – 10 MARCH 2026 (PAGES 3-7)

POP | 65/4/1 | #7879716

The Audit Committee adopted the minutes of the meeting held 10 March 2026.

Cr Anna Middleton joined the meeting 2:07 p.m.

4. REPORTS

4.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 10 MARCH 2026 (PAGES 8-16)

POP | 65/4/1 | #7879724

The Audit Committee noted the status of the matters arising from the Audit Committee meeting minutes from the Audit Committee meeting of 10 March 2026 and the Outstanding Actions Rectification Report for the Fraud and Corruption Control Plan.

4.2 AUDIT COMMITTEE ACTIVITY PLAN – YEAR ENDING 30 MARCH 2027 (PAGES 17-18)

POP | 65/4/1-07 | #7879729

The Audit Committee noted the status of the Activity Plan for the year ending 30 March 2027.

4.3. INTERNAL AUDIT – PROGRESS REPORT (PAGES 19-46)

POP | 65/15/1-01 | #7907357

The Audit Committee noted the Internal Audit Status Update.

ACTION: Further detail on the progress of Fraud & Risk Management corrective actions to be provided at next meeting.

4.4 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN (PAGES 47-58)

POP | 93/9/1 | #7904276

The Audit Committee endorsed the Strategic Internal Audit Plan FY26-29 and the Internal Audit Plan FY 26-27.

ACTION: A Flying Minute to Audit Committee members for all out-of-scope requests for committee approval.

4.5 RIGHT TO INFORMATION EXTERNAL DESKTOP AUDIT (PAGES 59-72)

POP | 65/15/1-01 | #7909690

The Audit Committee noted the outcomes of the Office of the Information Commissioner's Right to Information Desktop Audit and Council's acceptance of the audit recommendations, including the actions proposed to address the identified improvement opportunities.

ACTION: Outstanding items will be monitored and reported back annually to the Audit Committee.

4.6 2025/26 ASSET REVALUATION - OUTCOMES (PAGES 73-82)

FBS | 63/8/12-07 | #7853370

The Audit Committee noted the update on the outcomes of the Asset Revaluation process for the 2025/26 Financial Year.

4.7 QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE BRIEFING NOTE (PAGES 83-96)

FBS | 63/17/2-01 | #7904417

The Audit Committee noted the update from Grant Thornton as representatives of Queensland Audit Office (QAO).

4.8 2025/26 FINANCIAL REPORTING UPDATE (PAGES 97-137)

FBS | 63/17/2-01 | #7887581

The Audit Committee noted the update on the progress of the financial reporting project plan for the 2025/26 financial year and notes the draft 2025/26 Cairns Regional Council Financial Statements.

4.9 QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE – REPORT TO PARLIAMENT (PAGES 138-142)

FBS | 63/17/2-01 | #7878116

The Audit Committee noted the Queensland Audit Office Results of Audit: Local Government Entities 2024/25 report.

4.10 QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE – LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS REVIEW (PAGES 143-152)

FBS | 52/17/2-01 | #7885128

The Audit Committee noted the status of recommendations noted in prior year Queensland Audit Office Local Government Entities Report.

4.11 2026/27 BUDGET OUTCOMES – LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND ADOPTION OF BUDGET (PAGES 153-365)

FBS | 63/17/2-01 | #7886454

The Audit Committee noted the 2026/27 budget outcomes including the revised Long Term Financial Plan and that at its Special (Budget) Meeting held on 17 June 2026, Council adopted the 2026/27 Annual Budget.

Ann O'Bryan joined the meeting 3.05 p.m.

4.12 I&TS RISK MANAGEMENT – INFORMATION SECURITY & CYBER RESILIENCE (PAGES 366-383)

FBS | 84/5/1-01 | #7877704

The Audit Committee noted the update on I&TS Risk Management.

Ann O'Bryan left the meeting 3.21 p.m.

Amy Eden left the meeting 3.22 p.m.
Amy Eden returned 3.24 p.m.

4.13 TECHNOLOGY ONE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PAGES 384-385)

FBS | 84/2/22-01 | #7877698

The Audit Committee noted the closure on the Technology One Business Improvement (TOBI) Program.

5. AUDIT COMMITTEE AND AUDITOR'S SESSION (PAGE 188)

POP | 65/4/1-07 | #4222361

Staff left the meeting 3.29 p.m.

Staff returned at 3:56 p.m.

Ken Gouldthorp joined the meeting 3.56 p.m.

6. CEO BRIEFING ON CURRENT COUNCIL DIRECTION (PAGE 387)

EXE | 65/4/1-07 | #3679620

The Audit Committee acknowledged the verbal report provided by the CEO:

- ***Budget***
- ***End of Financial year reports***
- ***Cairns Water Security Project***
- ***Capital Works Delivery***
- ***Legislative Changes***
- ***Registers***
- ***Governance requirements***
- ***Waste***
- ***Water***

7. BRIEFING ON CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 PROJECT (PAGE 388)

CIA | 87/15/1 | #7607710

The Audit Committee acknowledged the update provided by the Director Cairns Infrastructure and Assets.

8. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 29 MAY 2026 (PAGES 389-411)

FBS | 63/17/2-01 | #7901868

The Audit Committee noted the financial performance report for the period ended 29 May 2026.

9. OTHER ITEMS

Nil

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Andrew Cornes – Grant Thornton, Mr Sri Narasimhan – QAO and Mr Mitchell Witt – BDO left the meeting 4.27 p.m.

11. AUDIT COMMMITTEE AND MANAGEMENT SESSION
65/4/1-01 | 4222394

12. NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 8 September 2026, commencing at 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday 1 December 2026, commencing at 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday 9 March 2027, commencing at 8:30 a.m.

13. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.