

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NORTHERN MIDLANDS

Council Decisions, Community Achievements and Local Stories

JUNE 2026 COUNCIL MEETING SNAPSHOT

Northern Midlands Councillors met on 29 June to discuss a range of issues important to our communities, including community safety, recreation, heritage protection, local projects and the 2026–27 budget. Here's a snapshot of some of the key decisions and discussions from the meeting.

Supporting Community Safety in Campbell Town

Council resolved to advocate for a stronger police presence in Campbell Town, including consideration of a permanent police presence. Tasmania Police will also be invited to meet with councillors to discuss local safety concerns and policing services across the region.

Exploring the Future of the Cressy Pool

Councillors supported further investigation into the potential enclosure of the Cressy Swimming Pool. A feasibility assessment will now be undertaken to examine costs, operational requirements, challenges and possible funding opportunities before a future report is presented to Council.

Progressing Ross' Dark Sky Vision

Council continued its support for Ross' goal of becoming an accredited Dark Sky Community by endorsing the next stage of lighting improvements. This includes progressing a formal agreement with TasNetworks and upgrading Council-owned lighting to help protect the town's remarkable night skies.

Preserving Local Character and Heritage

As part of its planning responsibilities, Council endorsed planning amendments to support a Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan and establish a Longford Entrance Local Historic Landscape Precinct. These initiatives will help protect the unique heritage, character and landscape values that make these places special.

Community Projects Moving Forward

Council also supported further investigation of funding opportunities for future upgrades to Pioneer Park and appointed a Councillor representative to the Perth Community Hub Management Committee.

Community Voices Heard

Public Question Time provided an opportunity for residents to raise local matters, including a proposal for a replacement Blue Tree installation in Longford and a request to investigate rezoning land at 69 Cromwell Street, Perth. Council agreed these matters would be investigated further and reported back at a future meeting.

Budget to Return for Further Consideration

Councillors considered the proposed 2026–27 Annual Plan and Budget; however, the adoption motion was not carried. Council subsequently resolved for the budget to be revised to reflect a 4.0% rate increase and brought back to the next Council meeting for further consideration.

Council thanks everyone who attended the meeting, submitted questions or continues to engage with local government. Community input remains an important part of Council's decision-making process and helps shape the future of the Northern Midlands.

Residents can stay informed by viewing Council agendas, minutes and meeting information on the Northern Midlands Council website www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au or to listen into the meeting visit our YouTube channel.

LONGFORD LEGENDS SIGNAGE UNVEILED

New interpretation signage celebrating Longford's Shearers and Norfolk Islander heritage was officially launched on 18 June at Christ Church Hall. The signage, located at the Longford Legends Lych Gate in Stokes Park, highlights the contributions of local shearing families and Norfolk Island settlers. The launch attracted 45 attendees, many with direct family connections to the stories featured.

Guests shared personal memories and reflections, while Norfolk Island descendant Robert Smith spoke about the experiences of families establishing a new life on the Norfolk Plains.

The new displays are a valuable addition to the Longford Legends Walk, helping preserve and share these important local histories for future generations.

- 1 Sarah Hean Preece with Councillor Dick Adams OAM
- 2 Robert Smith, Cr Richard Archer, Cr Dick Adams OAM, Ron Greig, Dr Tim Flanagan and Cr Alison Andrews OAM



ILLUMINATE EDUCATION CHALLENGE WEEK 2026

Hundreds of Northern Midlands students once again showcased their creativity, teamwork and leadership during **Illuminate Education Challenge Week 2026**. This year's challenge focused on **community resilience to climate change and weather events**, with Years 5 and 6 students from across the region working together to develop practical ideas that could help local communities prepare for and respond to changing conditions.

Throughout the week, students explored real-world issues, collaborated on solutions and presented their ideas to the community. The program provided valuable opportunities to build skills in problem-solving, communication and innovation while encouraging young people to think about the future of the Northern Midlands.

Delivered by Illuminate Education Australia in partnership with the Northern Midlands Business Association, the program continues to empower local students to become confident, creative and capable contributors to their communities.

RIGHT: Perth Primary School students showcase their Disaster Ready Emergency Kit to Mayor Mary Knowles OAM



Senator Tammy Tyrrell congratulates the cohort of illuminate Challenge 2026

CONTACT US

(03) 6397 7303
council@nmc.tas.gov.au

ADDRESS

13 Smith Street, Longford TAS 7301
PO Box 156 Longford TAS 7301

OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:45am - 4:30pm