MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF KOUGA MUNICIPALITY HELD ON THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 2026 AT 10:00 AM

PRESENT: Councillors	J Alexander	
	C August	
	Ald D Benson	
	H Bornman	(Executive Mayor)
	B Dhludhlu	
	R Foley	
	W Gertenbach	
	A Hendricks	
	F Heystek	
	T Jantjes	(Deputy Executive Mayor)
	L Maree	(Speaker)
	M Mbandana	
	E Mbuqu	
	B Moos	
	K Ndzelani	
	M Nicholls	
	L Nkilishane	
	N Ntengwane	
	P Oliphant	
	W Petersen	
	C Pietersen	
	S Ruth	
	G Stuurman	
	M Valgee	
	W van der Linde	
	M van Niekerk	
	M Yali	
	V Zana	
Officials & Municipal Manager	C du Plessis	(Municipal Manager)
	D de Jager	(Deputy Municipal Manager)
	C de Kock	(Director: Civil & Water Services)
	N Machelesi	(Director: Community Services)
	T Madatt	(Director: Electro-Mechanical Services)
	R Lorgat	(CFO)
	L Ramakuwela	(Director: Planning & Development)
	L Opperman	(Manager: Legal Services)
	M Rossouw	(Manager: Administration & Auxiliary Services)
	R Swart	(Committee Officer)

Councillors are required to comply with the Standing Rules and Orders of Council and all its Committees By-law as promulgated in the Provincial Gazette on 29 April 2026 No.5631 and applicable to this meeting of Council. Any person who willfully contravenes any provision of these rules shall be guilty of an offence and which contravention shall be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedures for Councillors.

2. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Speaker read the notice convening the meeting in terms of Section 19 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act,2000 (Act No.32 of 2000) that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held virtually on 25 June 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

3. **OPENING AND WELCOME**

The Speaker welcomed everyone present to the meeting and requested Cllr Jantjes to open with a prayer.

3. **ABSENT WITH LEAVE**

None

4. **ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE**

Cllr N Ntshota

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

None

6. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

Cllr W Petersen extended congratulations to Bafana Bafana on reaching the knockout stages of an international football tournament, noting that this achievement represents a historic milestone for South African football. He remarked that, to his knowledge, the country had not previously reached this stage of the competition. Cllr W Petersen acknowledged the significance of the accomplishment and conveyed best wishes to the team for continued success in the knockout rounds. He expressed the hope that Bafana Bafana would secure further victories and achieve additional milestones, adding that this was the only congratulatory message he wished to extend to any team in the country at that time.

@10:15 Cllr Gunuza joined the meeting.

Cllr Mbandana conveyed sincere condolences on behalf of the African National Congress (ANC) following the passing of Mama Roberts, who was laid to rest the previous week. He described her as a respected elder and longstanding member of the Methodist Church, as well as a loyal and valued member of the community. Cllr Mbandana also extended condolences to the family of the late Mr Bartman who was scheduled to be laid to rest over the weekend. He noted that the African National Congress had lowered its banner as a mark of respect, acknowledging Mr Bartman as a respected elder, and a highly regarded member of the community.

Ald Benson extended birthday wishes to Cllr van Niekerk and Cllr Valgee on their birthdays. Nikkie

Cllr Gertenbach extended condolences on the passing of Mrs Nikkie Kriegel. He noted that she had been an active member of Ward 2's Ward Committee and a dedicated supporter and activist of the Democratic Alliance. Cllr

Gertenbach acknowledged her contribution to the community and expressed his sympathy to her family and loved ones, wishing that she may rest in peace.

Cllr Nkilishane noted that the Economic Freedom Fighters had successfully commemorated Youth Day on 16 June at the Union Buildings. He reflected on the significance of the 1976 Soweto Uprising, stating that it played a pivotal role in challenging the apartheid regime and advancing the struggle for freedom in South Africa. Cllr Nkilishane further remarked that the pursuit of economic freedom remains an ongoing objective, particularly for black South Africans.

Cllr Heystek congratulated the Springboks on their performance during the rugby match held over the weekend in the Kouga and Gqeberha region. He described the match as an excellent game that was enjoyable to watch and noted that, despite work commitments, many supporters were still able to follow and enjoy the game.

7. **STATEMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS BY THE SPEAKER**

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Council, Officials, Online Guests, colleagues,

Good Morning

As we passed the longest night of the year on Saturday, the Winter Solstice, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the past month and the challenges our community has faced together.

Once again, our region was struck by severe flooding, causing significant damage to municipal infrastructure, provincial assets, private property, and businesses. The impact has been felt across our towns, farms, and communities. As a caring municipality, we are committed to assisting residents wherever possible. However, the scale of the damage is immense, and our resources are limited. We therefore call on all members of our community to continue taking hands with us as we rebuild, recover, and emerge stronger than before.

In difficult times, the true character of a community is revealed. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to every resident, volunteer, organisation, farmer, business owner, and community group that stepped forward to assist during and after the floods. While social media often highlights challenges and criticism, it can never fully capture the countless acts of kindness, generosity, and selflessness that have taken place over the past few weeks. Your efforts have made a real difference in the lives of those affected.

I would also like to acknowledge our Municipal Manager, Directors, and all Municipal staff once again. I know I have thanked you repeatedly, but your dedication deserves recognition. Throughout this year, we have faced one disaster after another, yet you have continued to respond with professionalism, resilience, and commitment. I have personally witnessed staff members working long hours, responding to emergencies, carrying out flood relief efforts, and still maintaining essential service delivery. Some have done so while battling illness themselves, yet they continued to serve this community with unwavering dedication.

A special word of appreciation must go to Monique Basson and her team. I honestly do not know when you sleep. No matter the hour, no matter the challenge, you are always available to send communication out to the public. I would like to thank our Executive Mayor and fellow Councillors for their hands-on involvement and visible presence within our communities during these difficult times.

Amidst these challenges, there are also moments that unite us in celebration and pride. Congratulations to Bafana Bafana, whose performances continue to inspire our nation. We also congratulate the Springboks for carrying our flag with pride on the international stage. Our congratulations extend to the South African women's cricket team for their achievements and for being outstanding ambassadors for our country.

Finally, we celebrate a remarkable achievement by a talented 15-year-old South African gymnast who recently returned home with medals from the Down Syndrome World Championships. Such accomplishments remind us that determination, perseverance, and courage can overcome any obstacle.
As we move beyond the longest night of the year, let us remember that every day now brings a little lighter. May we carry that same spirit of hope, resilience, unity, and compassion forward as we continue rebuilding our communities and supporting one another.

Thank you,

8. **STATEMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

The Executive Mayor expressed his appreciation and congratulations to municipal staff for their outstanding efforts during and after the recent floods. He acknowledged the dedication shown by officials in responding to the disaster, assessing the extent of the damage, and commencing recovery and clean-up operations despite challenges and criticism. He noted that the work of restoring damaged infrastructure and normalising services remained ongoing and commended staff for their continued commitment.

The Executive Mayor informed Council that the Auditor-General had recently announced Municipal audit outcomes in Parliament and highlighted that Kouga Municipality had once again been recognised for achieving a clean audit. He thanked the Municipal Manager, Chief Financial Officer, directors, and all Municipal staff for their contribution towards maintaining clean audit outcomes and good governance standards. He further noted that the new audit cycle had already commenced, and that the Municipality remained committed to sustaining the progress achieved over recent years.

The Executive Mayor further reported that Kouga Municipality had received additional recognition at a recent MUNIMEC meeting. He advised that the relevant report would be submitted to Council once the minutes of the meeting had been received. He highlighted that the Department of Water and Sanitation had commended the Municipality for its performance, noting that Kouga was one of only three Municipalities in the Eastern Cape to improve its Green Drop score and had achieved the most significant improvement in the province. He further noted that the Municipality remained among the top-performing municipalities in the province in respect of Blue Drop assessments. The Executive Mayor expressed his appreciation to the relevant Municipal

departments and officials, particularly those involved in water and sanitation services, community services, human resources, finance, and administrative support functions, for their contribution to these achievements.

The Executive Mayor urged Councillors to remain focused on their primary responsibility of service delivery during the election period. He emphasised the importance of separating political activities from the work of the Municipality and ensuring that residents continued to receive uninterrupted services.

The Executive Mayor also provided an update on infrastructure projects, noting that the next phase of the municipality's road reseal programme was commencing. He stated that the project formed part of the municipality's long-term strategy to strengthen and maintain road infrastructure. He further reported positive progress in the upgrading of gravel roads and confirmed that these programmes would continue to be implemented.

In conclusion, the Executive Mayor encouraged Councillors, municipal staff, and all stakeholders associated with the municipality to maintain a strong work ethic and commitment to service excellence through good governance. He emphasised the importance of continuous improvement in municipal services and expressed confidence that the municipality was moving in the right direction. He encouraged the administration to continue striving for higher levels of performance and service delivery for the benefit of residents.

9. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None

10. **STATUTORY MATTERS**

None.

11. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEETING FOR INFORMATION**

None

12. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

12.1 **MINUTES OF A SPECIAL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2026**

@10:38 Cllr Zana, called for a caucus break.

Following the caucus break, Cllr Zana informed Council that the African National Congress (ANC) Caucus was withdrawing all speakers previously listed to participate in discussions on Council agenda items, regardless of their significance. He further stated that no members of the ANC Caucus would participate in debates or raise matters for clarification on any of the items before Council. Cllr Zana also advised that the ANC Caucus would abstain from voting on all matters requiring a decision by Council.

Cllr Ndzelani raised a correction to the minutes, noting that the name recorded on page 34 as "Mama Witbooi" should be amended to "Mama Meisie Madikane".

Resolved: (25 June 2026)

1. That the Minutes of a Special Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 May 2026 be approved.

Proposed: Cllr Gertenbach Seconded: Cllr Van Niekerk

12.2 **MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2026**

Cllr van der Linde referred to a previous request for a detailed financial report on the Environmental Management Fee (EMF) Fund and noted that he had requested information on the fund's income and expenditure rather than a general explanation of its purpose. He sought details of the total revenue collected from residents and how the funds had been utilised over the past ten years, indicating that the requested report had not yet been provided despite earlier assurances.

In response, the Speaker acknowledged the request and advised that compiling the information for the previous ten years would require extensive research and the review of historical Council records and agendas. She indicated that she would follow up on the matter but cautioned that it could take some time for the administration to compile and provide the detailed information requested.

Resolved: (25 June 2026)

1. That the Minutes of an Ordinary Council meeting held on 28 May 2026 be approved.

Proposed: Cllr Moos Seconded: Cllr Gertenbach

@10:48 Cllr August joined the meeting.

13. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL**

13.1 **REPORT BACK: SARAH BAARTMAN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTATIVE**

None

13.2 **KOUGA AUDIT COMMITTEE**

26/06/KAC1 EXTENSION OF TERM OF KOUGA AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON & MEMBER

Cllr van der Linde sought clarity on the financial implications of extending the term of office of the Audit Committee members for a further two years, noting that no financial implications were reflected in the report. He requested information regarding the remuneration of the committee members and enquired whether a performance assessment of the current Audit Committee had been conducted and reported to Council.

In response, the Municipal Manager advised that Audit Committee members were remunerated in accordance with Council approved tariffs and received sitting allowances as prescribed. He indicated that a report detailing the applicable fee structure could be submitted to Council if required. The Municipal Manager further noted that individual payment details were not normally disclosed publicly but confirmed that information relating to the approved tariffs and fees for Audit Committee members could be provided to Council.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council approves the extension of Daniel J. de Lange as Chairperson of the Kouga Audit Committee for a period of 2 years, from 1 September 2026.

2. That Council approves the extension of Romano Moodaley as member of the Kouga Audit Committee for a period of 2 years, from 31 January 2027.

3. That updated appointment letters be provided to the members mentioned in 1 and 2 above.

26/06/KAC2 KOUGA AUDIT COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT

Cllr van der Linde requested clarity on the reasons for the delay in establishing a dedicated Risk Management Committee and appointing a Chief Risk Officer, noting that these recommendations had been outstanding for some time. He also enquired about the development of an induction programme for Audit Committee members and measures being implemented to address specialist skills shortages within the municipality, particularly in the legal and ICT fields.

In response, the Municipal Manager advised that the establishment of a separate Risk Management Committee and the appointment of a Chief Risk Officer would have significant financial implications, which the municipality was currently unable to accommodate due to budgetary constraints. He explained that risk management functions were presently being addressed through the Internal Audit Unit, with the Audit Committee overseeing risk-related matters as part of its existing responsibilities.

The Municipal Manager further acknowledged the need for specialist legal and ICT skills but indicated that appointing additional staff in these areas was not currently financially viable. He noted that the municipality already employed legal professionals to provide support when required and that external specialists could be appointed where additional expertise was needed. He added that ICT risks and related assessments would be addressed through the Internal Audit Plan.

The Municipal Manager concluded that, although the recommendations had not been implemented as originally proposed, the municipality was managing the identified risks through alternative and cost-effective measures within its available resources.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council notes the performance assessment carried out by

the Audit Committee and the Municipal Manager for the work undertaken during the 2025/2026 financial year.

13.3 **RULES & ETHICS COMMITTEE**

None

13.4 **MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

26/06/MPACC1 MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (MPAC) – ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Cllr van Niekerk proposed an amendment to Recommendation 10.1, namely that the Internal Municipal Public Accounts Committee (IMPAC) Annual Work Plan be approved subject to the cancellation of the meeting scheduled for November 2026 and its rescheduling to January 2027.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gertenbach.

Proposed: Cllr Van Niekerk Seconded: Cllr Gertenbach

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the amended MPAC Annual Workplan be approved.

26/06/MPACC2 MINUTES OF THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council notes the minutes of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee and that the recommendations contained therein have been submitted to Council for resolution.

13.5 **MUNICIPAL BY - LAWS AND POLICIES**

26/06/PB1 APPROVAL OF KOUGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY SPECIAL PROGRAMMES UNIT POLICY FRAMEWORK

Cllr Foley referred to page 91, bullet point 6 and noted that extensive discussions had taken place on the policy during both the Policy Workshop and the Policy Committee meeting. He stated that it had been agreed that the categories of vulnerable groups to be prioritised should reflect the specific needs and circumstances of the local area.

Cllr Foley proposed an amendment to the policy by adding homeless persons to the list of priority vulnerable groups, in addition to children, youth, women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and indigent households.

The Speaker clarified the proposed amendment to Item 6 under vulnerable group prioritisation and confirmed that the second sentence should be amended to include persons with disabilities, indigent households, and homeless persons among the groups to be prioritised.

Proposed: Cllr Foley Seconded: Cllr Stuurman

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council Approves the amended Kouga Local Municipality Special Programmes Unit Policy Framework, with effective date from date of this Council Resolution.

26/06/PB2 **DRAFT REVIEW OF THE POLICY ON WHISTLEBLOWING**

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the draft Policy on Whistleblowing be approved by the Municipal Council.

2. That the effective date of the Policy on Whistleblowing be the date of this Council resolution.

3. That the Policy on Whistleblowing be published on the Municipal website.

4. That the Policy on Whistleblowing be circulated to all Kouga Local Municipality employees and Councillors.

26/06/PB3 **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAFT REVIEW OF THE KOUGA MUNICIPALITY'S ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STRATEGY AND PREVENTION PLAN**

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the draft Kouga Municipality Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Prevention Plan be approved by the Municipal Council.

2. That the effective date of the Kouga Municipality Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Prevention Plan be the date of this Council resolution.

3. That the Kouga Municipality Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Prevention Plan be published on the Municipal website.

4. That the Kouga Municipality Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Prevention Plan be circulated to employees and Councillors.

14. **REPORT BACK: MUNIMEC**

None

15. **REPORTS BY THE OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

26/06/MM1 **REPORT ON DESIGNATION OF A MPAC CHAIRPERSON FROM PART-TIME TO A FULL-TIME COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Nkilishane stated that the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) remained opposed to the item under consideration. He noted that

when the matter had previously been presented to Council, the EFF had rejected it on the grounds that it was, in their view, unjustified and inconsistent with principles of sound oversight and the responsible use of public funds. Cllr Nkilishane further indicated that, while the EFF respected the decision of the majority of Council, the party wished to place on record that it continued to reject the item.

Cllr Van Der Linde requested clarification from the Municipal Manager on whether all statutory consultation processes required in terms of Section 16 of the Municipal Structures Act, including consultation with organised local government and the public participation process, had been fully completed prior to the publication of the relevant Government Gazette. He further enquired as to why the upper limits of salaries, allowances and benefits had been backdated to 1 June, questioning whether this was linked to the commencement of the municipal financial year.

Cllr Van Der Linde also indicated that, while the item was before Council for noting only, he shared the concerns previously expressed by Cllr Nkilishane and did not support the matter.

The Executive Mayor noted the views expressed by members regarding the item and confirmed that the Democratic Alliance supported the matter before Council. He stated that the item had previously been debated and considered by Council and emphasised that, in his view, the matter was not related to affordability but rather to strengthening the oversight function of the Internal Municipal Public Accounts Committee (IMPAC). The Executive Mayor indicated that the purpose of the item was to enhance the capacity of the MPAC Chairperson and the committee to perform effective oversight over the municipality for the remainder of the current term and into the next term. He further noted that the issue of the backdating of the upper limits could be clarified by the Municipal Manager and remarked that the backdating corresponded with the publication of the relevant Government Gazette.

The Municipal Manager explained that the designation of full-time Councillor positions falls within the authority of the MEC. He noted that Council had previously adopted a resolution requesting that the position of MPAC Chairperson be designated as a full-time position and that this request had subsequently been submitted to the MEC for consideration. The Municipal Manager advised that the MEC had decided on the matter and had specified the effective date of the designation. He indicated that the date reflected in the report corresponded with the effective date determined by the MEC.

The Deputy Municipal Manager provided further clarification in support of the response by the Municipal Manager. He explained that, following Council's initial resolution, the matter had been submitted to the MEC's office for consideration. The MEC

subsequently published the proposal in the Government Gazette for public participation and invited public comments in accordance with the applicable legislative requirements. Following the completion of the public participation process, the MEC approved the designation of the MPAC Chairperson as a full-time position and communicated this decision to the municipality through an official letter and the relevant Government Gazette.

The Deputy Municipal Manager further explained that the Gazette stipulated that the designation would take effect from the first day of the month following publication. As the Gazette was published on 20 May, the effective date was 1 June. He therefore clarified that the implementation date did not constitute backdating but was in accordance with the provisions contained in the Gazette. He also confirmed that all prescribed public participation processes had been undertaken by the office of the MEC prior to the approval being granted.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the report on designation of a MPAC chairperson from part- time to a full-time Councillor, be noted.
2. That the Upper Limits of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits of the Gazette No. 54179, be implemented with effect from 1st June 2026.

16. **REPORTS BY THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

26/06/DMM1 **EASTERN CAPE COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS - BOOKLET ON MUNICIPAL NON-NEGOTIABLES STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

The Executive Mayor requested that confirmation of the item and the resolutions adopted by Council be forwarded to the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA). He stated that this would demonstrate Council's commitment to the implementation of the identified non-negotiables and its continued focus on delivering services to all residents of the Kouga Municipal area.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council notes the Eastern Cape Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Booklet on Municipal Non-Negotiables Standard Operating Procedures.
2. That the Eastern Cape Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Booklet on Municipal Non-Negotiables Standard Operating Procedures be circulated to the all the directorates.

17. **MATTERS DEALT WITH IN TERMS OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

(The reports by the Executive Mayor, in terms of the provisions of Section 63 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, on matters dealt with by the Executive Mayor in terms of delegated authority as detailed in the Minutes to be noted).

18. REPORTS BY THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

18.1 REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

26/06/FED11 TRANS BAVIAANS 3-YEAR SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

Cllr van der Linde expressed support for initiatives aimed at generating revenue and economic benefits for Kouga but sought clarification on the projected economic impact of R5.7 million and the anticipated attendance figures contained in the report. He requested further information on the methodology, data, and assumptions used to calculate these projections and whether any independent assessments had been undertaken.

Cllr Nkilishane indicated that the EFF opposed the proposed three-year sponsorship, arguing that there was insufficient evidence that the event would provide meaningful benefits to historically disadvantaged communities or create measurable local employment opportunities. He further expressed concern that municipal resources should instead be prioritised towards disaster preparedness and emergency response initiatives in vulnerable communities.

@11:18, Cllr Nkilishane proposed that Council reject the sponsorship and allocate the funding to disaster prevention and response measures.

In response, the CFO explained that the projected economic impact was based on participant registration data and estimated visitor spending patterns. He advised that the calculation was based on an expected 2,500 to 3,000 participants and conservative expenditure assumptions, primarily relating to accommodation and local spending. The CFO further noted that the estimate did not fully account for additional spending by support crews, family members, and other visitors accompanying participants, which could result in further economic benefits for the area.

The CFO also indicated that the proposed sponsorship was expected to generate broader economic opportunities through the local procurement of goods and services and the temporary employment of local residents to support event operations. He advised that the Economic Development and Tourism Directorate would monitor the event and assess whether the anticipated outcomes and benefits were achieved, expressing confidence that the projected economic impact and associated benefits were realistic and attainable.

The Speaker called for a vote for as follows:

In Favour: 16
Not in Favour: 1
Abstained: 10

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That a sponsorship for the Trans Baviaans be approved for period of 3- years commencing in 2026-2027, with last year being the 2028-2029 financial year, subject to all Event approval for the intended event, as follows:

Year	Cash contribution	In-kind services	Total partnership value
2026/27	R350,000.00	R150,000.00	R500,000.00
2027/28	R400,000.00	R180,000.00	R580,000.00
2028/29	R450,000.00	R200,000.00	R650,000.00

2. That approval is granted to authorize the Accounting Officer to conclude a Funding Agreement with Trans Baviaans – Event Organiser, in accordance with the funding allocated in recommendation 1 above.

26/06/FED12 **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT: S36 DEVIATIONS FOR THE MONTH: MAY 2026**

Cllr van der Linde requested clarification regarding a deviation listed on page 272, involving an amount of approximately R1.2 million, and sought additional details on the nature and justification of the expenditure, which appeared to relate to transport services. He further acknowledged the necessity of deviations associated with emergency flood-response measures but expressed concern that several of the appointed service providers were not based within the Kouga municipal area. He requested a breakdown of the appointments to determine whether they were limited to emergency sole-service providers and whether local suppliers had been considered. Cllr van der Linde also sought clarity on the availability of local companies capable of undertaking the work and the reasons for the appointment of non-local service providers in certain instances.

The CFO explained that Qpoint Group (Pty) Ltd was appointed because the Municipality was in the process of ending the contract of a previous service provider due to poor performance. He stated that water sampling services were essential for compliance purposes and could not be interrupted. He further advised that quotations were obtained to ensure value for money and that a formal tender process would be followed once the legal matter had been resolved.

With regard to emergency-related deviations, the CFO stated that Municipal policy required departments to first consider local service

providers and that the appointment of non-local suppliers could only be approved where a written motivation demonstrated that no suitable local provider was available.

The Director: Civils and Water Services confirmed that the appointment of Qpoint Group would remain in place until a new service provider had been procured, as water sampling was a statutory requirement in terms of SANS 241:2015. He advised that the municipality was satisfied with the service being provided. Regarding flood-related emergency deviations, the Director explained that external service providers had been appointed where the municipality lacked sufficient internal capacity to respond effectively. He further noted that quotations had been obtained to ensure competitiveness and that all deviations had been appropriately motivated and processed in accordance with municipal procedures.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the Deviation report for the month of May 2026 be approved by Council.

18.2 **REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

26/06/PD8 **REQUEST FOR COUNCIL'S APPROVAL TO ALIENATE (LEASE) AN ADDITIONAL PORTION OF PORTION 4 OF FARM 346, HUMANSDORP RD**

Cllr Nkilishane stated that the EFF remained opposed to the proposed amendment, having previously rejected the initial lease application by Woodlands. He expressed concern that Woodlands had not provided a detailed plan outlining the anticipated benefits for the local community, nor had it submitted an economic development plan indicating how residents would benefit from the development.

Cllr Nkilishane proposed that Council reject the request to amend the previous resolution and decline the lease extension until such time as Woodlands submitted a detailed economic development plan and a community benefit agreement. He acknowledged that the matter would be subject to a vote but reiterated the EFF's opposition to the proposal.

The Executive Mayor acknowledged the concerns raised by Cllr Nkilishane but expressed support for the item. He noted that Woodlands Dairy had made significant contributions to the Kouga community through various community development initiatives, including support for residents in need, soup kitchens, schools, sporting teams, and other local programmes. He stated that the company had consistently demonstrated a commitment to giving back to the community and expanding its social investment efforts. The Executive Mayor further indicated that he had no

concerns regarding the company's contribution to the community and expressed the view that decisions relating to development agreements should not be based solely on the extent of a company's community contributions. He therefore confirmed his support for the item.

@11:38 The Speaker called for a vote for as follows:

In Favour:16
Not In Favour: 3
Abstained: 9

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council grant **approval** to amend resolution 26/01/PD3 and grant permission to lease a portion measuring ±8.8 hectares of Portion 4 of Farm 346, Humansdorp RD to Woodlands Dairy.

2. That Council notes that no objections were received for the alienation of the immovable properties.

3. That Council approves the revised market-related rental of R18,150.00 per month for the property with annual escalations based on the Consumer Price Index.

4. That the property be used for the purpose applied for, and for no other purpose whatsoever, unless prior written consent has been obtained from the Lessor.

5. That Council grant authorization to the Accounting Officer to enter into a lease agreement with Woodlands Dairy

26/06/PD9 **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT KOUGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY BY-LAW RELATING TO LAND INVASION AND THE MANAGEMENT OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS.**

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council approves the By-Law Relating to Land Invasion and the Management of Informal Settlements.

2. That the approved by-law shall repeal and replace all previously approved Kouga Local Municipality By-Law Relating to Land Invasion and the Management of Informal Settlements.

3. That the approved By-Law Relating to Land Invasion and the Management of Informal Settlements be advertised in the Government Gazette for promulgation.

18.2 **REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: ELECTRO-MECHANICAL SERVICES**

26/06/EMS5 **REPORT: HUMANSDORP ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE VANDALISM AND DAMAGE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF 2025/26**

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That Council take note of the report.

2. That Council approve the establishment of a Task team comprising of the applicable and relevant stakeholders to address the ongoing vandalism of electrical infrastructure.

18.3 **REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: COMMUNITY & SAFETY SERVICES**

26/06/CSS6 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK AND PROGRESS TOWARDS THE VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW (VLR)**

Cllr van der Linde noted that the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) was presented in draft form and was before Council for noting. He requested clarity on the absence of a detailed budget and implementation plan beyond existing budget allocations and enquired about the specific targets, performance measures, and timelines associated with the six identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) over the next 12 to 24 months.

Cllr van der Linde further questioned how the SDG framework would ensure measurable improvements in addressing service delivery challenges, including the provision of water and sanitation services to informal households. He sought clarification on how the framework would move beyond recording existing Integrated Development Plan (IDP) initiatives and contribute to tangible and measurable development outcomes.

In response, the Director: Community and Safety Services advised that the item had no budget implications at this stage, as it was presented to Council for noting only. She explained that progress on the Voluntary Local Review would be reported to Council as implementation advanced and improvements were achieved. The Director further indicated that the review was intended to position the Municipality to access funding from external institutions and that no additional budget allocations were currently associated with the initiative.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the report on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)Implementation Framework be noted.

2. That the Draft Voluntary Local Review, attached as Annexure A, be noted.

26/06/CSS17 **SECOND FLOOD DISASTER DAMAGE REPORT FROM 3–6 JUNE 2026 WITHIN KOUGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

Cllr Nkilishane welcomed the report but raised concerns that it did not appear to reflect the circumstances of certain households in Ebumnyameni Ocean View that had been affected by the recent disaster. He noted that some affected residents had remained at their damaged properties to safeguard their belongings rather than relocating to temporary shelters and sought clarity on whether their situations had been considered during the disaster assessment process.

In response, the Director: Community and Safety Services explained that the report focused mainly on infrastructure damage resulting from the second phase of the flooding and on residents who had been displaced and accommodated in community halls. She advised that the Municipality's records were limited to affected persons captured through the official disaster management process and indicated that households not reported through these channels would not have been reflected in the report. She undertook to engage further with Cllr Nkilishane and investigate how assistance could be provided to the affected households concerned.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the Flood Disaster Damage Report from 3–6 June 2026, be noted.

2. That the financial implications as outlined are preliminary estimates based on initial assessments and do not represent the final financial implications.

3. That the expenditure be reported by the Executive Mayor to the Municipal Council at the next sitting of Council.

4. That if required, in terms of applicable legislation and where expenditure necessitates an adjustment, an Adjustment Budget for the 2025/26 financial year be tabled within 60 days after such expenditure was incurred.

SUPPLEMENTARY A G E N D A

23. **REPORTS BY THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

26/06/DMM2 **AMENDED INSTITUTIONAL CALENDAR**

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the Institutional Calendar, as amended be approved by Council.

26/06/DMM3 **AUTHORIZATION FOR DECLARATION OF A FORMAL DISPUTE ON LACK OF SERVICES DELIVERY IN RESPECT OF PROVINCIAL ROAD NETWORK - EASTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

The Executive Mayor clarified that the item was not intended as criticism of the support provided by the provincial administration, acknowledging its assistance with road maintenance, infrastructure repairs, and flood recovery efforts. However, he indicated that the scale of the infrastructure challenges exceeded the resources available to the province and noted that longstanding deficiencies, particularly on provincial roads, had been worsened by the recent floods. He further stated that residents and the municipality were increasingly required to address matters falling within the province's responsibility and had therefore sought urgent intervention from the relevant national authority.

Cllr van der Linde expressed support for the concerns raised and enquired whether any response had been received from the MEC, as well as the status of Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) meetings.

In response, the Executive Mayor advised that only an acknowledgement of receipt had been received from the MEC's office and that no substantive response had yet been provided. He added that the Municipality would follow up with a further correspondence and would also submit Council's resolution on the matter.

The Executive Mayor stated that the Municipality continued engaging with provincial stakeholders through various intergovernmental forums, although these efforts had not yet achieved the desired results. He further explained that the municipality had adopted a more targeted approach to intergovernmental relations by engaging directly with relevant departments to address specific issues, including transport and human settlements, on a case-by-case basis.

Resolved (25 June 2026)

1. That the Council takes note of the formal Dispute Declared with the Eastern Cape Department of Transport, by the Executive Mayor.

2. That the Council condone the submission of the formal dispute declared by the Executive Mayor with the Eastern Cape Department of Transport, specifically for the lack of service delivery on provincial roads situated within the Kouga Municipal area.

3. That the Executive Mayor be granted authorization to attend to all legislative and incidental processes in respect of the dispute so declared.

24. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 12:00



29 September 2026

L MAREE
SPEAKER

DATE