

MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF KOUGA MUNICIPALITY HELD ON MONDAY, 31 AUGUST 2026 AT 13:00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors

J Alexander	
C August	
Ald D Benson	
H Bornman	(Executive Mayor)
B Dhludhlu	
R Foley	
W Gertenbach	
V Gunuza	
A Hendricks	
F Heystek	
T Jantjes	(Deputy Executive Mayor)
L Maree	(Speaker)
M Mbandana	
B Moos	
K Ndzaleni	
M Nicholls	
N Ntshota	
P Oliphant	
C Pietersen	
S Ruth	
G Stuurman	
M Valgee	
M van Niekerk	
V Zana	
M Yali	

**Officials &
Municipal Manager**

C du Plessis	(Municipal Manager)
D de Jager	(Deputy Municipal Manager)
R Lorgat	(CFO)
C de Kock	(Director: Civil & Water Services)
T Madatt	(Director: Electro-Mechanical Services)
N Machelesi	(Director: Community Services)
L Ramakuwela	(Director: Planning & Development)
L Opperman	(Manager: Legal Services)
M Basson	(Manager: Media & Communication)
S Mlonyeni	(Communication Officer)
R Klaasen	(Media Liaison Officer)
Z Njikelana	(Media Liaison Officer)
E Goliath	(Manager: Public Participation)
D Kloppe	(Office Administrator: Office of the Speaker)
C Prinsloo	(Legal Officer: Office of the Speaker)
T Twani	(Manager: IDP)
M Rossouw	(Manager: Administration & Auxiliary Services)

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.

1. **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 a Special Council Meeting will be held virtually on 31 August 2026 at 13:00 p.m.

2. **OPENING AND WELCOME**

The Speaker welcomed everyone present to the meeting and requested Ald Benson to open with a prayer.

At 13:09, Cllr Zana informed the Speaker that he wished to rise on a motion in terms of Rule 21.1.

3. **ABSENT WITH LEAVE**

Cllr W van der Linde

4. **ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE**

Cllr E Mbuqu
Cllr L Nkilishane
Cllr N Ntengwane
Cllr W Petersen

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

None

6. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

Cllr Zana extended sincere condolences to Councillor Ndzelani and his family following the passing of his father. He also conveyed condolences to Cllr Ntshota on the loss of her brother over the weekend and expressed sympathy to all other families within the municipality who had recently lost loved ones.

In addition, Cllr Zana conveyed heartfelt condolences and prayers to the people of Nepal following the devastating floods that resulted in significant loss of life.

Cllr August extended condolences to the Booysen family of Ward 2, Jeffreys Bay, following the passing of Ms J Booysen, an employee of the Municipality.

She expressed sympathy to the family and conveyed wishes for her soul to rest in peace.

Cllr Mbandana extended his sincere condolences to the family of Mamma Blaauw of Thornhill, who passed away recently at the age of over 90 years. He conveyed his sympathies to the family and wished that her soul may rest in peace.

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

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

Good Morning

My deepest condolences to the Silberbauer family on the passing of Sally. Her departure came as a tremendous shock to the St Francis community. Sally, you leave behind an ocean of beautiful memories after decades of serving and caring for our community. Your warm smile, kindness, and willingness to always help others will live on through your stunning daughters and grandchildren. Thank you for always being there for everyone. You will be deeply missed.

Even though we had a few hints of summer, I would like to congratulate each rider who took part in this year's Trans Baviaans. Volunteering at Checkpoint 2 was once again a true honour, welcoming riders from all over the country. This iconic 24-hour race, which has been running since 2004, once again showcased the incredible spirit of our riders and the natural beauty of our lovely Baviaans area.

Yesterday, it was so special to be part of a wedding couple's dream coming true. They won a wedding and will be able to experience their very own fairytale. This year's event was twice the size of last year's and provided a wonderful platform for so many local businesses to showcase their talents and services.

Once again, I have seen so many of our staff members going the extra mile for our residents. Moments like these make me incredibly proud to wear my Kouga-branded clothing. We are so much more than a government institution — **we are a family**, united by our commitment to serving our communities.

Thank you to everyone who continues to make Kouga a special place to live, work and serve.

It is lovely to see the sun rising a little earlier every morning as we move closer towards spring.

Thank you,

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

The Executive Mayor thanked Municipal staff for their continued dedication and commitment to service delivery across all departments. He expressed concern regarding the vandalism and sabotage of municipal infrastructure,

noting its negative impact on essential services and reaffirming that such actions would not be tolerated.

He reported positive progress in the new financial year, highlighting improvements in revenue collection and capital expenditure. The executive Mayor further noted significant achievements in the municipality's key priority areas, including road infrastructure upgrades, improvements to wastewater treatment works, electricity projects aimed at reducing costs, and ongoing efforts to improve customer care and resident satisfaction.

The Executive Mayor also acknowledged the achievements of local sports clubs and athletes who continue to bring recognition to the Municipality.

In closing, he extended condolences to Councillor Ndzelani on the passing of his father and to Cllr Ntshota on the loss of a family member.

9. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None

10. **STATUTORY MATTERS**

None

Cllr Zana requested an ANC caucus of 5 minutes.

The Speaker granted the caucus from 13:23 -13:35

The Speaker enquired whether Cllr Zana wished to make a statement at that stage.

Cllr Zana indicated that he did not wish to do so and would instead wait for the opportunity provided by the Speaker to table the motion.

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

26/08/MM1 SUBMISSION OF PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS: SECTION 56 AND SECTION 57 EMPLOYEES: 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR

Cllr Oliphant emphasised the importance of conducting a comprehensive and realistic assessment of the performance of Section 56 and Section 57 managers, considering service delivery outcomes across all wards of the Municipality. He raised concerns regarding perceived disparities in service delivery, particularly in less affluent communities, and stressed that the lived experiences of residents should be considered when evaluating the performance of directorates.

While acknowledging that some directors were performing satisfactorily, he cautioned against supporting performance-related recommendations without due consideration of ongoing service delivery challenges affecting certain communities.

Cllr Zana supported the concerns raised regarding the performance management of senior managers and sought clarity on whether issues

previously identified in relation to the Blue Drop assessment and its impact on the performance evaluation of the Director responsible for Water and Sanitation had been addressed. He noted that Council had previously expressed the view that certain findings may not have been entirely attributable to the director concerned and requested assurance that such matters had been considered in the formulation of current performance agreements and future performance assessments.

The Executive Mayor advised that the performance agreements presented to Council were among the most comprehensive developed to date and welcomed future input to further strengthen the performance management process. He noted that concerns relating to service delivery in certain areas were already being addressed through planned infrastructure upgrades and related interventions.

He further emphasised that performance targets are linked to available budget allocations and expressed confidence that the proposed agreements would support improved financial management and service delivery outcomes.

The Municipal Manager explained that the performance agreements of Section 56 and Section 57 managers are derived from the approved budget and the Municipality's Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP). The top-layer SDBIP is aligned to departmental objectives, which are then translated into individual performance agreements for directors to ensure accountability for the delivery of approved service delivery targets.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That the Performance Agreements and supporting Performance Plans for the 2026/27 financial year in respect of the Municipal Manager and Directors be noted.
2. That in terms of the provisions of Section 53(3) of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003 the Performance Agreements of the Municipal Manager and Directors for the 2026/27 financial year be submitted to the MEC for Local Government and be made public by publication on the Municipal Website.

26/08/MM2 2026/27: SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: AMENDMENT

Cllr Ruth sought clarification regarding the reported amendment to the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP), noting that while the item referred to an amendment, the body of the report did not clearly indicate the nature or details of the proposed amendment.

Cllr Zana stated that the report did not clearly indicate what amendment was being proposed. He stated that the matters contained in the report appeared to be issues previously considered by Council.

The Municipal Manager clarified that the SDBIP had been aligned with the final budget approved by Council following the draft budget and IDP process. He explained that amendments were made to reflect the final approved budget, including confirmed allocations and conditional grants received from National Treasury.

He acknowledged that the wording of the item may have caused confusion, as it referred to an amendment, whereas the report before Council related to the final SDBIP aligned with the approved budget and IDP.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan for the 2026/27 financial year as approved by the Executive Mayor be noted.
2. That the Municipal Manager oversees the quarterly submission of departmental progress reports to the respective Portfolio Committees on the implementation of the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan.

26/08/MM3

TABLING OF THE 2027 – 2032 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP), BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROCESS PLAN AND 2027/2028 TIME SCHEDULE

Cllr Zana stated that the African National Congress (ANC) had not supported the approved Budget and Integrated Development Plan (IDP), as it was of the view that the priorities and needs raised by communities, particularly in less affluent areas, were not adequately reflected. He expressed concern that the IDP process risked losing its intended value if community-identified priorities were not effectively addressed, while projects in more affluent areas appeared to receive greater attention.

Cllr Zana indicated that, notwithstanding these concerns, his party noted the item before Council.

The Executive Mayor clarified that the item before Council did not relate to the current IDP but rather to the process plan and time schedule for the development of the next five-year Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for the 2027-2031 term. He explained that the item outlined the process to be followed in preparing the new IDP and should not be confused with the IDP and budget previously adopted by Council.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That Council adopts the final Integrated Development Plan (IDP), Budget and Performance Management System (PMS) Process Plan for the preparation of the 2027–2032 Integrated

Development Plan, in terms of section 28(1) of the Municipal Systems Act.

2. That Council approves the IDP, Budget and PMS Time Schedule for the 2027/2028 financial year, as contained in Annexure A and contemplated in section 21(1)(b) of the Municipal Finance Management Act.
3. That the Municipal Manager be authorised to publish notice of the particulars of the adopted process and to make the final Process Plan and Time Schedule publicly available in accordance with section 28(3), read with sections 21 and 21A, of the Municipal Systems Act.

12. **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).

13. **REPORTS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

13.1 **REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

26/08/FED1 SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT: ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE 2025-2026 FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2026

Cllr Oliphant reiterated that the ANC caucus had consistently opposed proposals and plans which, in its view, did not adequately address the needs and priorities of poor and disadvantaged communities. He stated that the party's position remained that it would not support initiatives that it believed would not directly benefit these communities.

Cllr Zana requested clarification on expenditure reflected in the Supply Chain Management Annual Report relating to the purchase of replacement engines and engine overhauls for Municipal vehicles. He questioned the cost-effectiveness of repeatedly repairing or replacing engines in older vehicles and enquired whether the acquisition of new fleet vehicles would be a more sustainable option. He further sought information on the expected lifespan of vehicles following major engine repairs or replacements.

In addition, Cllr Zana requested clarity on entries in the report where expenditure was recorded as "rates", specifically referring to items listed on pages 396 and 398 and requested for an explanation of the amounts reflected.

The CFO explained that decisions to replace or overhaul vehicle engines are based on an assessment comparing the cost of repairs with the value and remaining useful life of the vehicle. Where engine

replacement is deemed more cost-effective than procuring a new vehicle, the repair is approved. Such repairs are also reflected in the asset management system and may extend the useful life of the vehicle for accounting purposes.

In response to the query regarding "rates", the CFO explained that some procurements are undertaken on a rates-based basis rather than as fixed-cost contracts. This allows the Municipality to procure goods, components, or services as required at predetermined unit or hourly rates within approved procurement limits.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That Council approve the 2025/26 FY Supply Chain Management Annual Report, for the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

26/08/FED2 SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT: S36 DEVIATIONS FOR THE MONTH: JULY 2026

Cllr Zana requested clarification on the costs associated with the rental of office accommodation, specifically relating to the Woltemade Building. He enquired about the number of Municipal employees housed in the building, whether the amount reflected was a monthly or annual rental cost, and what long-term measures the Municipality had in place to reduce expenditure on rented office space.

Cllr Zana noted the item subject to the requested clarification.

The CFO clarified that the amount reflected in the report for the rental of office accommodation represents the annual cost for the full financial year under the existing lease agreement, and not a monthly rental amount.

The Deputy Municipal Manager advised that the Municipality had previously assessed alternative accommodation options but had not identified any suitable buildings capable of housing the large number of staff currently accommodated in the rented offices. He noted that several key departments operate from the facility, and the main Municipal offices do not have sufficient capacity to accommodate them.

He further indicated that the Municipality would continue to explore alternative options and assess the market in future with a view to reducing rental costs where feasible.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

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

26/08/FED3 2026/27 FIRST ADJUSTMENTS BUDGET – ROLLOVERS OF UNSPENT 2025/26 CAPITAL BUDGET

Cllr Zana sought clarification on the rollover of unspent funds, particularly in relation to the DBSA loan for roads infrastructure projects. He enquired whether the underspending would affect the Municipality's commitments and timelines agreed to under the loan arrangement. He also requested reasons for the delays in expenditure and implementation of projects funded through both the DBSA loan and internal funding sources.

The CFO explained that there is currently no risk to the DBSA Roads Infrastructure Programme, as the Municipality has submitted phased implementation plans and provides regular progress reports to DBSA. He noted that DBSA is fully aware of the implementation schedule, with phases already underway and further phases to be tendered.

Regarding grant funding, he advised that rollovers are subject to Treasury approval and are generally only permitted in specific circumstances. He explained that the only potential grant rollover relates to WSIG funding, where project costs were lower than originally anticipated, resulting in savings. All other grant-funded projects had been fully spent and implemented. He further noted that only internally funded projects or projects not yet completed may be rolled over to the next financial year.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That the Executive Mayor recommends that the Council, by resolution taken by the majority of its full number, and in terms of Section 30(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act No. 117 of 1998 (as amended), read in conjunction with Chapter 4 of the Local Government: Finance Management Act, Act No 56 of 2003, approves the 2026/27 adjustments budget as indicated in the “**Annexure A**” attached hereto.

26/08/FED4 SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT YEAR ENDING STOCKTAKING AS AT THE END OF 30 JUNE 2026: S40 DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT (DISPOSAL OF SLOW-MOVING STOCK, REDUNDANT STOCK AND DAMAGED STOCK ITEMS)

Cllr Zana requested clarification regarding a stock item relating to new tyres that appeared to have remained in stock since 2017. He sought information on the status and usability of the tyres and enquired whether consideration had been given to disposing of the stock if it was no longer required or had become redundant.

The CFO explained that the tyres in question had last been issued in October 2017 and are now considered redundant, as they were intended for a vehicle that has since been disposed of and is no longer part of the municipal fleet. As the tyres are no longer required for Municipal operations, they have been identified as redundant stock for disposal in accordance with the Municipality's asset management processes.

Resolved (31 August 2026)

1. That the report for the Section 40 Disposal management of slow-moving stock, redundant stock and damaged stock as the end of Financial Year be submitted to Council for approval for the 2025/2026 Financial year.
2. Considering that any stock item that has not been issued by Stores Section on a minimum of three previous financial years by Stores. Those stock items allocated in those bins must be regarded as redundant stock items.
3. That the recommended disposal strategy by SCM section for redundant stock for the total value of **R 43 634.61 (Excluding Vat)** which is reflected in Table 1 be put on a public auction, and after approval by Council these items will be removed from the shelves at stores. Thereafter be kept safe for collection by Manager Assets, so that they can be included in the list to be considered for auction.

MOTION OF EXIGENCY:

Cllr Zana introduced a motion for debate, noting that in July 2026 the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) released an investigative report concerning wastewater infrastructure failures and the contamination of rivers, estuaries, and coastal waters within the Kouga Local Municipality. He requested that Council debate the findings and implications of the SAHRC report.

Cllr Oliphant seconded the tabling of the motion.

The Executive Mayor proposed that the report be tabled before Council once the SAHRC engagement process had been concluded and all relevant responses had been received.

At 14:21 Cllr Benson requested for a 5-minute caucus.

The Speaker granted the requested for a caucus at 14:21 -14:27.

The Executive Mayor reiterated that a comprehensive report on the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) findings would be submitted to Council once the engagement process had been completed. He advised that the report would include the Municipality's responses, proposed mitigating measures, implementation plans, and progress towards addressing the identified concerns.

He expressed the view that a debate at the current stage would be premature, as Council did not yet have all the relevant information before it. He therefore requested that the matter be debated once the full report and associated action plans had been presented to Council.

At 14:29, the Speaker called for a vote on the tabling of the Motion of Exigency as presented by Cllr Zana.

In favour: 7

Not in favour: 16

The Speaker ruled that the motion would not be carried.

14. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 14:31



**L MAREE
SPEAKER**

29 September 2026

DATE