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To the Mayor and Alderman of Katherine Town Council,

I have read with great concern the Agenda for tonight's Monthly Council Meeting and would like to raise concerns at this eleventh hour, on a number of Agenda items.
My comments are not provided with any malice and I would sincerely hope they are not interpreted as such.
In no particular order:

1. Report Title: Election of Deputy Mayor for the remainder of the current term

This motion could be viewed as both divisive and discriminatory.
This community selected our Alderman from a pool of 16 candidates. The current six Alderman have the confidence of the community to serve our interests and in turn had confidence in each other (refer to the original motion) by supporting an eight month turn about process as Deputy Mayor. The motion on tonight's agenda denies two Alderman the opportunity to act in the Deputy Mayor role and divides the current team. Not good.
While it is incredibly unfortunate that our elected Mayor is unable to complete this four year term due to personal circumstances rather than divide the Alderman by imposing a secret ballot to determine a Deputy Mayor, would it not be more advantageous to resign and leave the community to select a new mayor for the remainder of the term ?

2. Report Title: Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services – CCTV Licence Deed

Way too big to digest in the short time this Agenda has been available to the public for scrutiny. I would like to see this Item tabled and held over to the next meeting. A number of residents have key concerns that require closer scrutiny .

3. Report Title: Naming of The Dog Park in Lockheed Reserve

Absolutely support naming this park after Andrew Wilson. Great bloke and this is a very appropriate way to honour his memory.

4. Report Title: Partnership/Support Enquiry from Menzies School of Health Research

Do not support this item at all. Drug addiction needs to be discouraged not fostered by providing free needles. The proposed site for this unit is a key meeting place/car park/tourist facility and I cannot for the life of me see how placing such a unit at the VIC could be considered safe for the general public.

I do not support this proposal in the least and I am not alone in my view.

There's a few other items of concern but time does not permit me to list them here.

In closing the general sentiment from a number of people is one of discontent that as elected members you are processing agenda items without sufficient community consultation.

One way to remedy this may be to consider having the open forum in the open.

In other words if you can hold the citizenship ceremony downstairs in the open – why not the community forum too ?

Kind Regards,

Kerrie Mott