



Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes

**Tuesday 25 July 2017
Ordinary Meeting 6:00 PM**

Council Chambers, Civic Centre,
Stuart Highway, Katherine

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY 25 July 2017

1. Welcome to Country

2. Opening Prayer

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3. Present

Mayor Fay Miller
Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts
Alderman Steven Rose
Alderman Donald (Henry) Higgins

In attendance

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer
Mr David Moore – Acting Director Works & Services
Mrs Sophie Henderson – Community Services
Executive Manager
Ms Sue Crammond – Executive Assistant to CEO
(Minute Taker)

8 members of the Katherine Community
1 member of the Media

4. Apologies and Leave of Absence

Leave of absence – Mayor Fay Miller 1 September to 8 October.

MOVED: Tapp Coutts/ Clark

Recommendation:

That the leave of absence be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5/0

5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 27 June 2017 be confirmed as true and accurate.

MOVED: Clark / Tapp Coutts

CARRIED 5 / 0

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

NIL

7. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

Deputy Mayor declared he was a Board member of the now defunct YMCA Katherine. He is not a YMCA NT Board member. Mayor Miller declared there to be no conflict of interest.

8. Mayoral Business to be Considered

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered.

Calendar of Events – 1 June - 25 July

Meeting with Michael Tennant CEO DTBI and Luke Bowen REDC x 2

Ministers Advisory Council for Senior Territorians

Seniors Expo at NT Museum

Meeting with community member x 7

Meeting with Tourism NT, Charles Darwin Centre, Darwin

Meeting with Minister Moss

Meeting with Southern Cross TV

Meeting with Commander Matt Hollamby

Katherine Community Safety Committee meeting

Meeting with VIC Manager Maria Helou

KREDC meeting

Food Ladder site visit and luncheon

Funeral x 2

ABC Radio interview (Katherine Hot Springs)

Meeting with Sharyn Innes

ABC Radio interview (POSI's)

"No More" Campaign launch

Northrop Grumman – Insights into Katherine

42nd Katherine Art & Craft Prize

Sister City proposal and the Katherine Abattoir

Elected Member Information Session x 3

Open Forum x 2

June and July Council meetings

Katherine Airport proposal meeting

PFAS Pre-briefing for the Community Walk-in sessions

PFAS Walk-in sessions 1 & 2

Show & Shine display

Territory Day celebrations

Outback Experience visit

Meeting with Simmone Croft Katherine Museum

Meeting with Katherine Regional Arts

Teleconference – Alcohol Policies and Legislation Review LGANT

Kalano Aged Care morning tea

Hot Springs site visit x 2 (Jessie Brown, June Woods and Lisa Mumbin)

Katherine Town Council Doggy Day

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

NAIDOC March
NAIDOC Closing ceremony
Savannah Way Ltd Board meeting – teleconference
Meeting with John de Koning
ABC Radio Interview – Food Futures
NT Homelessness Strategy & 5 Year Action Plan – Katherine
Katherine Research Station – Katherine Food Futures
Bendigo Bank Katherine – 10th Anniversary
Meeting with Suzanne Fermanis GYRACC
Meeting with John de Koning & Jake Quinlivan – Dept of Chief Minister
Meeting with Sharyn Innes
Women’s Round Table Dinner
NTCOSS meeting with Minister Dale Wakefield
Tourism event with Minister Moss at Mimi Arts
Katherine St John Ambulance Centre opening
Official opening of Katherine & District Show and attendance 2 days
LGANT Executive meeting – teleconference
Cancer Council NT Dinner – Knotts Crossing
These are the activities up until Tuesday night 25th July 2017

9. Correspondence and Documents to be Tabled

NIL

10. Petitions

NIL

11. Questions

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

11.1 WITH NOTICE

NIL

11.2 WITHOUT NOTICE

NIL

12. Notice of Motion

NIL

13. Report of Officers

13.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Reports

MOVED: Higgins / Gazey

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Mayor Miller noted Katherine is the highest growth area outside of Darwin, which is a very pleasing result.

CSEM noted that approximately 198 dog registrations were taken at Doggy Day, but will confirm exact number to Elected Members.

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey questioned the change of reporting on Service Requests.

CEO & Exec Assistant stated that technology failure had resulted in nil reporting of service request data for the month. Only a "completed" report was able to be produced. It is hoped the long awaited upgrade of the system will alleviate the problems. At this time, date not known for upgrade to occur.

Mayor Miller commented on the visit to the Foodladder Project on 18 July, which provided an excellent update on their progress. It is pleasing to note the venture is now supplying the following local businesses with produce: Finch Café, Paraway Motel, Regent Court Chinese, Pop Rocket Café.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Chief Executive Officer Report for the month of June 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.2 MONTHLY CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Corporate and Community Services Reports

MOVED: Clark / Gazey

Deputy Mayor attended the Green Snaps exhibition opening night. He was pleased to see the number of youth and adult section entries and hopes this growth continues next year.

Mayor Miller suggested a more vigorous marketing would improve promotion and therefore, participation levels. There are a number of families which contribute now, but with better marketing this number could rise. Promotions/marketing should contain the information that the event is family friendly and alcohol free.

Theme for next year is "*People in their Environment*".

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Corporate and Community Services Division for the month of June 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.3 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works and Services Division Reports

MOVED: Clark / Tapp Coutts

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Alderman Tapp Coutts would like graphs to contain historical information on previous years, similar to the reporting provided in the Corporate & Community Services Report. Provision of previous year information enables ease of trend identification.

Mayor Miller commented that the watering system at the far end of the Showgrounds appears to not be working – planting are starting to suffer.

A/DWS responded that the sprinklers were linked to the Hot Springs system during the construction phase to assist with dust control. The sprinklers will be redirected back to the Showgrounds very soon.

Mayor Miller commented on the extreme dust clouds rising from the show arena during the driving exhibitions and that in general, the ground seemed very dry.

A/DWS noted there have been water pressure issues, i.e. competing demands on the system and some damage which prevented watering. The Oval has now been aerated and multiple waterings scheduled for this week to recover the surface for the football match on Saturday.

Alderman Higgins commented that there is a conflict around watering the arena on Show Days - the equestrian events want the ground dry so horses don't slip, but the cars like it wet. It is a delicate balancing act to get a happy medium between the two.

Alderman Tapp Coutts would like to see car events which include sliding/skidding moved off the arena as it causes too much surface damage.

Alderman Clark thanked the Works and Services team for a great job in reducing costs associated with the sprinkler system.

Alderman Rose requested an update on the Hot Springs project.

A/DWS provided the following:

- 1st stage due for completion at end of October
- Lawns should be laid during August
- Steps are being put in place this week and concreting of pathways will commence the following week. Staircase handrails will take longer.
- Gabion rocks will complete this week and the contractors will return to Adelaide on Saturday 29 August.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Works and Services Division Report for the month of June 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.4 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JUNE 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Higgins / Tapp Coutts

Queries raised on “*EFT Payment Listings*” on pages 29-31 related to the description noted against the payment. The system has a character limit which often isn't enough to provide a full explanation of the cost, e.g. if a payment was for multiple invoices for multiple jobs provided by a single contractor.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council endorse the Financial Report for the month of June 2017.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.5 MUNICIPAL PLAN – QUARTERLY REVIEW

File: Local Governance / Compliance / Municipal Plan

MOVED: Tapp Coutts / Gazey

Mayor Miller referred to page 36 and expressed concern regarding the potential to remove the Point of Sale Intervention (POSI) program in Katherine. Mayor Miller was noted that she was unable to attend the NT Alcohol Policy Review Forum at Knotts Crossing, held on 25 July. She was assured that KRAG were well represented at the meeting and that KTC, KRAG and LGANT views had been verbally provided at the session. Mayor Miller looks forward to the report on the Review.

Alderman Clark noted that Katherine was used as a leading example of success by other areas wanting to instigate the POSI system.

KTC's new website is still not up and running. This is in large part due to staff shortages. The expected "go live" date has had to be pushed back.

Alderman Rose questioned progress on the Emulgulan Road Native Title issue. Is there a resolution timeframe?

CEO noted this is currently with NTG and KTC are awaiting an update on progress.

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council notes the status of the quarterly review of the Municipal Plan for 2016/2017 as at the 30 June 2017.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.6 ACQUITTAL – SPECIAL PURPOSE GRANT – REVITALISATION OF THE HOT SPRINGS

File: Finance / Grant Funding / Department of Local Government and Community Services

MOVED: Tapp Coutts / Clark

That it be recommended to Council:

That the acquittal for the 2015/2016 Special Purpose Grant is received and noted and the acquittal is forwarded to the Department of Local Government and Community Services.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

13.7 TENDER 17/04 – ROCKHOLE COMMUNITY ACCESS

File: Tender / Works / Florina Road – Rockhole Community Access

MOVED: Rose / Clark

Deputy Mayor Gazey noted he was pleased to see this tender had not been awarded to the contractor who had done the previous work on Florina Road, as issues around that project had yet to be resolved.

That it be recommended to Council:

That Tender 17/04 – Rockhole Community Access, be awarded to Downes Graderways at their submitted schedule of rates price of \$117,570.00 (GTST exclusive).

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.8 MINUTES OF THE KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – 20 JUNE 2017

File: Community Relations / Committees / Katherine Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee / 2017 Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee Meetings

MOVED: Higgin / Clark

Mayor Miller asked for an update on provision of disabled toilets. A/DWS Confirmed that these were added to the master plan.

Deputy Mayor Gazey asked if storage will still be required. A/DWS Confirmed a new shed is being considered at the Softball end of Oval 1 to replace the besser brick building - subject to DCA approval.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Minutes of the Katherine Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee Meeting, held 20 June 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.9 CONSENT TO PROVIDE COMMENTS TO LICENCING NT

File: Regulatory Services / Licences - Permits / Alcohol Licences Permits 2017

MOVED: Tapp Coutts / Clark

Deputy Mayor Gazey – Page 71 advises timeframes are 2-3 hour for events.

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council raises no objection to and endorses the application, noting recommendations:

1. The area immediately outside the premises is kept clean of rubbish at all times

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

2. That no off-site sales of alcohol occurs (which is consistent with the application).

CARRIED: 5 / 0

13.10 KATHERINE MUSEUM – LEASE RENEWAL

File: Legal Documents / Lease / Katherine Museum

MOVED: Clark / Rose

Mayor Miller noted the quarterly grant made by Council to the Museum. Deputy Mayor Gazey questioned the lease condition, 7.5. *Carry on Business* and whether that will be an issue in the wet season. Mayor Miller responded that the Museum's business hours are always reduced in the wet season and so therefore they are considered to be their "normal business hours". Deputy Mayor Gazey asked about access to use of the land and facilities, being provided to other businesses and associations? CSEM stated the provisions covering this are contained in Paragraph 2.2 part (c) of the lease agreement.

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council authorise the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the lease documents.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

14. **Reports from Representatives on Committees**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Elected Member Representatives on Committees

The following meetings/activities were attended by the Elected Members in May:

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey

EMIS x 2

Katherine Community Market Stall

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Citizenship Ceremony

Open Forum

Special Meeting of Council (Chair)

Hot Springs Meetings

Development Consent Authority

Green Snaps Opening

Paralympics Opening Kintore Street School

PFAS Walk-In Forum Knotts Crossing

YMCA

Food Ladder Information Session

Territory Rumble - Judging

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts

Ordinary Council Meeting
EMIS x 2
Citizenship Ceremony
Open Forum
ALGWA Meeting by phone
Food Ladder Information Session
Katherine Region of Writers – Library
Naomi Hunter Morning Tea
Green Snaps Photography Launch
Pine Creek Markets
Australia Institute Fracking Meeting – RSL
Katherine Cancer Working Group Meeting
Alternative Pathways for Disengaged Youth – Katherine Club
Somerville Community Services Garden Party – Guest speaker
Council Special Meeting
Katherine Prize

Alderman Steven Rose

EMIS x 2
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Citizenship Ceremony
Open Forum
Rise Venture Meeting
Special Council Meeting
Road Safety Forum Knotts Crossing
Development Consent Authority
Chamber of Commerce Meetings x 2
Foodladder
Alternative Pathways for Disengaged Youth Information Session
NO MORE Campaign Luncheon
Northrop Grumman – Insights into Katherine
PFAS Walk-In Information Session Knotts Crossing
NT Farmers Food Futures Forum
Opening of Stage 1B of the Katherine Country Club Golf Course
Meeting with Lauren Moss, Minister for Tourism and Culture
Katherine St John Ambulance Official Opening

Alderman Lis Clark

EMIS x 2
Katherine Community Market Stall
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Citizenship Ceremony
Open Forum
Green Snaps
Foodladder
Showgrounds Advisory Committee Meeting
Katherine Prize
Rise Venture Meeting
PFAS Walk-in Forum Knotts Crossing
Special Council Meeting
Territory Day
Doggy Day

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Alderman Donald Higgins

EMIS

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Citizenship Ceremony

Open Forum

15. Late Agenda

15.1 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – POOL MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT – YMCA NT

MOVED: Higgins / Clark

Alderman Higgins moved a motion to include the Late Agenda Item.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Recommended to Council:

That the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (Pool Management Services Agreement) to end on 30 June 2018 for the Katherine Aquatic Centre – Lot 2525 – Stuart Highway to YMCA NT and affix the Common Seal as required.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

16. General Business

Alderman Clark - Has been approached by a tourist commenting on the number of young children out and about at night (aged 7-10 yrs). Why isn't something being done? Why don't the Police find out who they are and take them home? Expressed concern the children are at risk and no one seems to be acting on it.

Mayor Miller committed to take the matter to the Family Safety Committee. She would also discuss it at the regular monthly meeting with Commander Hollamby.

Alderman Tapp Coutts commented that at the recent morning tea with Minister Wakefield, held at the Katherine Town Council, it was noted there are some loops in the Legislation regarding these types of issues but they are working to close them. It is an extremely delicate and complex business. Alderman Tapp Coutts assures the Council that Minister Wakefield is aware of the matter and is very concerned.

Alderman Clark echoed that concern and expressed her hope that no children came to harm whilst things were being worked through.

Alderman Higgins – As a non-returning Alderman, Henry thanked all his colleagues for the robust and useful discussions held over the past term of Council. He acknowledged Robert Jennings and the Executive Team for providing very good and informative advice to him and to all Aldermen. He personally thanked Sophie Henderson and Rosemary Jennings for their excellent and sustained commitment to community engagement. He believes the community is unaware of how many volunteer/additional hours these two ladies put in to ensure community events are fun, well run and safe for all attendees. Henry intends to spend his retirement travelling around Australia with his wife, but assures us he will back in Katherine on a regular basis and especially for the Katherine Show.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Alderman Tapp Coutts – Thanked the Council for the past 2.5 years. She stated it has been an amazing time, is really excited about the future of the town and looks forward to the coming years. She stated she has a huge respect for all her fellow Alderman and especially the retiring Alderman Henry Higgins. She said he has always used great commonsense and provided sound council. She also thanked the Executive Team for their amazing contributions.

Alderman Rose – Thanked Alderman Henry Higgins for his robust conversations during their term together. He thanked all the Aldermen for all their hard work and knows that they have always held the best interests of Katherine as of paramount importance. He wished all Aldermen the best in the upcoming elections. He expressed his thanks to the Administrative Team and particularly Robert Jennings for his excellent service to the Council and Aldermen.

Deputy Mayor Gazey – Thanked all Aldermen for their keen discussions over the current period. Thanked everyone for their patience, input and for taking on board his comments and for generally allowing him to be heard. He thanked Robert Jennings and the team for their excellent service and advice.

Alderman Clark – Stated it has been a pleasure working with the team and the CEO and noted the big difference he has made to the Town. She commented on her appreciation of the excellent plan and budget provided so Council can achieve their goals. She thanked all Alderman and said she will miss those “special characters”. She noted that she has thoroughly enjoyed her term as Alderman. She also thanked the Administration Team and acknowledged the size of the job they do.

Mayor Miller read the following:

“As this is the last Ordinary Council Meeting of this term of Local Government I take this opportunity to THANK all elected members for their team work over the past 5.5 years. The term for local government at that time was 4 years but was legislatively changed during 2016 resulting in an extension of 18 months.

I was elected Mayor in March 2012 with 6 Alderman. Unfortunately one of those elected Alderman Adrian Creighton became ill and died early into the term. Alderman Kate Ganley also resigned at that time which ultimately resulted in the election of Peter Gazey and Toni Tapp Coutts to fill the vacancies.

Alderman Robbie Phillips retired in December 2016 which did not force a by election.

I am standing for re-election as Mayor at the coming elections and hope that the community have trust and confidence in me to represent them for another 4 years. I would be honoured to do so.

Of the elected members here tonight I believe that all are nominating to be re-elected onto Katherine Town Council, with the exception of Alderman Henry Higgins who is planning retirement in 12 months to travel Australia with his wife Vicki. THANK YOU Henry for your wise counsel and your involvement on committees and so many community events during your time on council. You will definitely be missed. I have a feeling that you will be back in Katherine around each Showtime though.

I wish to THANK all the elected members for their team work during this term. We may not always agree on everything, but we certainly have worked for what we believe is best for Katherine. You have all put in many voluntary hours on various committees and community events which is very much appreciated.

I also wish to THANK our CEO Robert Jennings who has absolutely uplifted Katherine Town Council in the 2.5 years he has been in the position. Robert has guided us in a positive and strategic direction which has put us in good

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

stead in developing Katherine further. I can't thank him enough for his support and sharing his knowledge and expertise.

Thank you to all the Katherine Town Council staff for their support to all elected members. I believe we have had a great team all round which has made all of our jobs so much easier."

Mayor Miller also acknowledged the presence of and thanked Jill Kelly for attending almost all Council Meeting and Phil Harris for his attendance and advise, especially during Open Forums.

Mayor Miller congratulated Robert Jennings on his appointment to the Northern Territory Planning Commission and noted the following:

- LGANT have received advise from the Weeds Committee they need a nomination of a person at Officer level.
- Date of Australia Day celebrations are to be put back to Councils to decide.
- Mayor Miller congratulated all those who had something to do with the organisation of the Katherine Show. She acknowledged the incredible volume of work done by the Committee to ensure the Show's success and that it was great to see the excellent community support of the Show.

17. Confidential Items

Mayor Miller moved a motion for the meeting to be closed to the public.

Members, Council has resolved to use Section 65 (2) of the *Local Government Act* to discuss and resolve confidential issues which come before it. Section 65 (2) states that Council is able to close a meeting, which means that all members of the public and press will be asked to leave the Council Chambers, to discuss specific issues in relation to matters referred to in regulations 8 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations.

Deputy Mayor Gazey - Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to the public to discuss issues relating to matters as stipulated in regulations 13 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

17.1 HENRY SCOTT RECREATION CENTRE SERVICES AGREEMENT - YMCA NT.

File: Legal Documents / Lease / YMCA – Henry Scott Building

MOVED: Higgins / Rose

Recommended to Council:

That the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to execute a three (3) year Management Services Agreement of the Henry Scott recreation

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 2017

Centre – Lot 2525 – Stuart Highway to YMCA NT and affix the Common Seal as required.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Mayor Miller called for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey - Your Worship, I move the motion that the meeting be open to the public.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Meeting opened at 7.25 pm.

18. Next Ordinary Meeting of Council

The seventh Ordinary Meeting of Council for 2017 will be held on Tuesday 12 September 2017.

19. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 7.28pm.

Peter Gazey
DEPUTY MAYOR OF KATHERINE