



# MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council  
Held on Tuesday 12 December 2023**

Civic Centre, Council Chambers  
24 Stuart Highway, Katherine NT 0850

## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

## 2 OPENING PRAYER

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

## 3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Deputy Mayor Coburn declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council 12 December 2023 open at 12:00 pm.

## 4 ATTENDANCE

### 4.1 PRESENT

#### ELECTED MEMBERS

- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn(Chair)
- Councillor Maddy Bower (via video conference)
- Councillor Amanda Kingdon
- Councillor Peter McDougall
- Councillor Kerrie Mott

#### OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Rosemary Jennings – Director Community Services
- Amanda Haigh – Governance and Executive Officer (minute taker)
- Staff x 5

**PUBLIC** - 3

### 4.2 APOLOGIES

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-137**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

That Council accepts the apology of Mayor Elisabeth Clark and Councillor Jeremy Trembath.

**CARRIED 7|0**

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall,  
Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath  
AGAINST: Nil

### 4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE



Nil

## **5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

Nil conflicts declared.

## **6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

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## 7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 28 NOVEMBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-138**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 November 2023 as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil



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## 8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 8.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES - NIL

## 9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

### 9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-139**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for November 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

## 11 PETITIONS

Nil

## 12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

There were no Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 12 December 2023.

## 13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

## 14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 14.1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT AUTHORITY KATHERINE APPOINTMENTS

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-140**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the approved appointments of:

- a) Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn and Councillor Madeleine Bower as community members, and
- b) Councillor Jeremy Trembath as the althernate community member,

to the Katherine Division Development Consent Authority commencing 4 December 2023 for a period of 2

years.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

#### **14.2 UPDATE TO THE INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - COUNCIL TO CEO**

##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-141**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council endorse Update to the Instrument of Delegation – Council to CEO.

**CARRIED 4|1**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon and Councillor McDougall  
AGAINST: Councillor Mott

##### **Discussion**

Councillor Kerrie Mott raised 20 questions relating to the Instrument of Delegation - Council to CEO document of previously approved delegations relating directly at the CEO.

The CEO responded thoroughly explaining the practical meaning of each delegation raised to ensure council were completely informed. The Delegations by the Council to the CEO are the responsibility of the elected members.

The Council were reminded that the amendment for decision was only related to the credit card limit to reflect actual and no other changes have occurred in the document.

#### **14.3 AMENDMENT - PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT - KATHERINE REGIONAL CULTURAL PRECINCT**

##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-142**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council endorse the revised Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Partnership Agreement to include Katherine Town Council's contribution to the Katherine Prize.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

#### **14.4 LGR2015/00010 LG PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND ACQUITTAL**

##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-143**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council endorse the 2020-21 Local Government Priority Infrastructure Fund LGR20015/00010 acquittal for upgrades to the Hot Springs carpark.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

It was acknowledged that all current delays are due to a shortage of contractors and staff, alongside delays to product delivery. Recognized that if these circumstances continue council will continually have to pursue grant extensions so funds can be retained to complete projects.

CEO requested to raise the matter with LGANT to take to the board to consider advocating for NTG and Commonwealth funding arrangements to consider realistic timeframes of the current environment for project delivery.

#### **14.5 SPG 2019-20 WASTE MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR ACQUITTAL**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-144**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

That Council receive and note the funding acquittal for the Special Purpose Grant 2019-2020 Big Rivers Waste Management Working Group for the Stage 1 Consultancy for the feasibility study of the Materials Recycling Facility for 30 June 2022 and 31 December 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Council requested Mayor to followup an update on the \$7.2mill for the Waste Recovery Facility.

#### **14.6 MOSQUITO MONITORING PROGRAM 1 DECEMBER 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2025**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-145**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council approve affixing the Common Seal and signing of the funding agreement EILE2023/21729 with the Department of Health for the Mosquito Monitoring Program Katherine Region, for the period of 01 December 2023 to 30 June 2025, grant amount of \$63,334.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

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#### 14.7 KATHERINE TOURISM INVESTMENT UPDATE

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-146**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

That Council notes the provided Tourism Investment update report

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

An amendment to the report providing missed information of funded projects under the VEEP included:

- Katherine Club: Install play equipment, soft fall matting and shade structure \$52,410.00
- Katherine Motel: Provide bright modern functional rooms through fixture and bathroom upgrades, installation of kitchenettes in eight rooms and a new barbeque guest kitchen \$100,000.00
- Contour Hotel: Redesign the bar area opening it to the outside to serve al fresco, extending the bar inside for guest seating, upgrade lighting for improved ambience \$54,744.12
- Katherine Country Club: Install new children's playground equipment and soft-fall sand \$70,717.72

#### 14.8 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL BY-LAW REVIEW

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-147**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council notes the update on the Katherine Town Council By-Law review.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Domestic livestock management currently falls under an interim control order by DIPL which relates to the keeping of domesticated animals in the municipality. This inclusion would allow for the council to give control over what livestock can be kept and the quantities instead of using the planning scheme.

#### 14.9 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-148**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council endorses the Finance Report for the Month of November 2023.

**CARRIED 4|1**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon and Councillor McDougall



AGAINST: Councillor Mott

## Discussion

Noted the spelling error within Table 4 - CEO Credit Card transactions for the month that Officeworks expense was for office chairs.

Note 3 is showing no debts owed to council for the period - question taken on notice

**14.10 FIRST BUDGET REVIEW 2023-2024****COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-149**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council:

- Note the first budget review for 2023-2024, and
- Adopt the original endorsed 2023-2024 budget.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott

AGAINST: Nil

**14.11 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023****COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-150**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the Corporate Services Report for the month of November 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott

AGAINST: Nil

**14.12 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023****COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-151**

**Moved:** Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

1. That Council receive and note the Community Services Department report for the Month of November 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott

AGAINST: Nil

## Discussion

Library staff were again commended for the services provided, acknowledging their hard work with a top-notch team that go above and beyond.

Defined that the suspected multiple dwellings notices relates to multiple avenues used to identify possible multi-dwelling locations which is then assessed before a decision is made. Also noted that not able to use drones due to restrictions of use around military base, airports and helicopter bases. Confirmed that properties are being assessed across the whole Katherine Town Council Local Government area to ensure equality.

Acknowledged the International Day of People with Disability awards ceremony was a fantastic event with many in attendance and great to see acknowledgement in the sector.

#### **14.13 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023**

##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-152**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure and Environment Department for November 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

##### Discussion

The sculpture modifications relate to the engineering certificate required before installing in a public space, this does not sit within council's responsibility. Also noted that there had been previous discussion regarding colours upon installation confirming the previous decision of council did not include.

Defibrillator installation concern where minimal phone coverage such as airport - taken on notice to follow-up.

Thank you to CDU Rural College for the donation of the purple bench.

The outdoor lockers is a funded project to address anti-social behaviour. It is observed that people sleeping rough hang belongings in trees and take Woolworth's trollies to use. Also fights are occurring with taking others belongings. A trial to provide different sized lockers at O'shea Park undercover area, with free access for people who come to stay in town. The agency who provides services to them will manage the lockers. Noting that we are limited to the location due to native title claim.

Request for the cemetery cleanup to be well communicated.

## **15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

### **15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES**

### **15.2 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

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## 16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

### 16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-153**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for November 2023.

**CARRIED 5|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor Kingdon, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Mott  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Councillor Bower apologised for not submitting and will provide next year.

## 17 LATE AGENDA

## 18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Wished all constituents and council a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Reminder of the free movie Wonka event on Saturday.

Encouraged all to check the KTown Christmas Events Calendar as there are still more to come.

Thoughts go out to Councillor Jeremy Trembath and family.

Wished staff and those attending the meeting a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## 19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

The time being 1.28pm.

## 20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

### 20.1.1 Confirmation of Previous Confidential Minutes 28 November 2023

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

## 20.2 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 20.2.1 Greening Advisory Committee Membership

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

## 21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 1:53 pm.

## 22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council 12 December 2023 was declared closed at 1:53 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 23 January 2023.