



MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Wednesday, 26 April 2023

Council Chambers,
Civic Centre, Stuart Highway, Katherine

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 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

Mayor Elisabeth Clark declared the meeting open at 12.00pm.

4 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Elisabeth Clark (Chair)
- Councillor Maddy Bower
- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
- Councillor Amanda Kingdon
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath

OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Rosemary Jennings – Director Community Services
- Mr Brendan Pearce – Director Infrastructure and Environment
- Mr Avtar Singh – Director of Corporate Services
- Amanda Haigh – Governance and Executive Officer (minute taker)
- 6 staff

PUBLIC

- 11

4.1 APOLOGIES

NIL

4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

NIL

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held On 28 March 2023

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-028-2023

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn

Seconded: Councillor Trembath

That the minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council on 28 March 2023 be confirmed as true and accurate.

CARRIED 5/0

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-029-2023

Moved: Councillor Kingdon

Seconded: Councillor Trembath

That Council receive and note the update for business arising from previous Council meetings as at 14 April 2023.

CARRIED 5/0

Katherine Youth Sculpture – sitting with NTG

Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee – appointed members have been advised, other members are being sourced. Once appointed the first meeting will be scheduled with a Terms of Reference tabled.

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYORAL ACTIVITIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-030-2023

Moved: Councillor Bower

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Coburn

1. That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for the period to March 2023.

CARRIED 5/0

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-031-2023

Moved: Councillor Bower

Seconded: Councillor Trembath

1. That Council receive and note the Correspondence and Documents:
 - (a) Letter – Minister for Local Government - Local Government Immediate Priority Grant 2022-23 - \$160 220 Katherine sports precinct fencing renewal phase 1 – 20 March 2023,
 - (b) Letter – Lendlease - Tindal Try'a Trade Invitation – 30 March 2023, and
 - (c) Letter – Heritage Council - Historic Aircraft Wrecks – 6 April 2023.

CARRIED 5/0

The Tindal Try'a Trade will be held on Thursday, 24 August 2023.

11 PETITIONS

NIL

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

Question	Response
Request to explain the voluntary Night Owl Program	Voluntary patrol between the hours of 1 to 5 am, volunteers will patrol and note/report criminal behaviour. Currently seeking volunteers.
Request to explain the Rapid Response vehicle	A golf buggy funded by NTG to engage in the CBD similar to Darwin. Delayed due to traffic management plan permit.
Request to explain the Lindsay Street Complex flooding rectification request to DIPL	Water pools in the Lindsay Street Complex entrance near levy wall after the erection of the levy wall prohibiting council to maintain the area. Requests to DIPL to rectify.
What are the future plans for the old Foodladder/ Youth Centre site?	Not an agenda item

Thankyou to Councillor Kingdon for raising questions to council.	Acknowledged
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13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

134 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-032-2023

Moved: Councillor Kingdon

Seconded: Councillor Bower

1. That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Report.

CARRIED 5/0

Council raised that with current issues of the flood levy wall creating pooling of water concern raised for stage 2.

Highway trivia signage proposed to increase driver alertness and road safety, similar to across the rest of country on the main highways. Suggestion for changing text option.

CEO congratulated on initiative for succession planning of staff through management mentoring.

14.2 ELECTED MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-033-2023

Moved: Councillor Kingdon

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Coburn

1. That Council approve the Elected Members Conflict of Interest Policy Version 1.

CARRIED 5/0

Reiterated that managing any conflicts is the most important aspect.

14.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-034-2023

Moved: Councillor Kingdon

Seconded: Councillor Bower

1. That Council:

- (a) Notes that an Accounting and Policy Manual is no longer required under Northern Territory local government legislation,
- (b) Approves the Rating Strategy and Policy version 6,
- (c) Approves the Borrowing Policy version 2,
- (d) Approves the Investment Policy version 3,
- (e) Approves the Reserves Policy version 1,
- (f) Approves the Leasing Policy version 2, and
- (g) Approves the Financial Sustainability Policy version 1.

CARRIED 5/0

14.4 KATHERINE MEMORIAL CEMETERY POLICY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**OCM-035-2023****Moved:** Councillor Trembath**Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

1. That Council approves the Katherine Memorial Cemetery Policy - V3.

CARRIED 5/0

Suggestion for future pet cemetery be considered.

14.5 DRAFT GUIDELINE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**OCM-036-2023****Moved:** Councillor Kingdon**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the Draft Guideline for the Management of Human Remains report.

CARRIED 5/0

14.6 AFFIX COMMON SEAL - CMC FUNDING AGREEMENT - SAFER TERRITORY PLACES GRANT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**OCM-037-2023****Moved:** Councillor Trembath**Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

1. That Council authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet Safer Territory Places Grant agreement of \$230 000 and affix the Common Seal to fund:
 - (a) 40 Additional Solar Lights - \$170,000,
 - (b) Skate Park Lighting Upgrade - \$20,000,
 - (c) Additional Laneway Closure - \$30,000, and
 - (d) Community Night Owl Patrol Project - \$10,000.

CARRIED 5/0

Solar lighting location will be identified in conjunction with other stakeholder groups. Raised that the street lighting outside BP have not been working for months.

Laneway closure is additional to the current ones council are progressing. Delays due to procurement processes and supply of materials. Police will provide input into the identified laneway. Raised that closing laneways requires users to use other pathways that need repairs and upgrades such as widening for wheelchairs and stabilisation that will be considered after the outcome of the trial laneway closures outcomes considered.

14.7 SECOND BUDGET REVIEW 2022-2023

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-038-2023

Moved: Councillor Kingdon

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Coburn

1. That Council:
 - (a) Adopt the 2022-2023 amended budget as presented in this second budget review and included on the attached Revised Statement of Income & Expenditure, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows (Financial Statements) and Long-Term Financial Plan.
 - (b) Authorise management to upload 2022-2023 amended budget as presented in the attached Financial Statements and the Long-Term Financial Plan on Council's website.

CARRIED 5/0

14.8 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-039-2023

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn

Seconded: Councillor Bower

1. That Council endorse the Finance Report for the Month of March 2023.

CARRIED 5/0

14.9 MONTHLY REPORT OF CORPORATE SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-040-2023

Moved: Councillor Trembath

Seconded: Councillor Bower

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

CARRIED 5/0

14.10 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-041-2023

Moved: Councillor Trembath

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Coburn

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

CARRIED 5/0

At 12:56 pm, Councillor Jeremy Trembath left the meeting.

At 12:58 pm, Councillor Jeremy Trembath returned to the meeting.

145 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

Nil

156 ELECTED MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-042-2023

Moved: Councillor Bower

Seconded: Councillor Trembath

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

CARRIED 5/0

167 LATE AGENDA

Nil

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Katherine Cristian Convention will be held at the showgrounds on 30 April 2023.

Katherine and Big Rivers Sports Pavilion awaiting Building Certifier permit once contractors make good the final requirements before being opened for use.

Sportground lighting on oval 1 and 2 outage from lightning strike will be claimed through insurance.

Sportground user groups may request waiver or decrease of fees to CEO due to not being able to use the sports Pavilion.

River walk circuit crossing over river northern section pathway was completely washed away. Budget proposal to address the erosion and stormwater damage.

Festival of the Dry pamphlet out now with many events planned over the dry season.

Ex Mayor Faye Millar state funeral will be held on 26 March 2023. Council have been requesting for guest invitations. Suggestion for livestreaming at Town Square would need to be considered by Protocol NT.

CEO thanked Evans Insight Consultancy, Maria Evans, for the work she has done on reviewing and developing policies for Council.

19 CLOSURE MEETING TO PUBLIC

Members, Council has resolved to use *Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019* to discuss and resolve confidential items which come before it.

Section 99(2) gives power to council to close a meeting for public, which means that all members of the public and press will be asked to leave the Council chambers, to discuss specific items in relation to matters referred to in *regulations 51 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

I now move a motion that the following items (and items list follows no confidential reason) to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public to discuss items relating to matters as stipulated in *Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and regulations 51 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

The meeting was closed at 1.13pm.

17 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-043-2023

Moved: Mayor Clark

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Coburn

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with *Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019*:

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

This matter is considered to be confidential under *Section 99(2) - b of the Local Government Act 2019*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

20.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

This matter is considered to be confidential under *Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act 2019*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

20.3 VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT 2023-2025

This matter is considered to be confidential under *Section 99(2) - a of the Local Government Act 2019*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

20.4 BY-ELECTION SERVICE AGREEMENT

This matter is considered to be confidential under *Section 99(2) - civ of the Local Government Act 2019*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

CARRIED 5/0

18 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

Open meeting was resumed at 2.20pm.

19 NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

That the next meeting of the Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 23 May 2023.

20 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 2.20pm.