



# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Meeting of Council**

**Friday, 28 July 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 1.01pm

## 4 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 4.1 ATTENDANCE

#### 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
- 1 Staff

#### PUBLIC

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### 4.2 APOLOGIES

NIL

### 4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

## 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mayor reminded elected members of responsibility to declare any conflict of interest.

NIL conflicts declared.

## 6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

NIL

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held On 27 June 2023

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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-045-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That the minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 June 2023 be confirmed as true and accurate.

**CARRIED 5/0**

7.2 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 29 June 2023

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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-046-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

That the minutes of Special Meeting of Council on 29 June 2023 be confirmed as true and accurate.

**CARRIED 5/0**

7.3 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held On 3 July 2023

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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-047-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That the minutes of Special Meeting of Council on 3 July 2023 be confirmed as true and accurate.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

## 9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

<b>9.1 MAYORAL ACTIVITIES</b>
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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-048-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

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

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED

### 10.1 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**OCM-049-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

1. That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:
  - (a) Letter – Objection to the 200 bed workers camp at Lansdowne Road Katherine NT 0850 – 12 July 2023 – Doc ID 180084/ 180091;
  - (b) Email - Mayor of Walkerville - Activate Katherine Street Party – 14 July 2023– Doc ID 180124;
  - (c) Letter – Minister Uiho – Response Katherine Infrastructure needs – 17 July 2023 – Doc ID 180421.

**CARRIED 5/0**

Tabled at meeting: Letter – Minister Uiho – response Katherine Infrastructure needs – 17 July 2023 – Doc ID 180421

Mayor offered to members of the public an opportunity to speak regarding the correspondence tabled. Concerns were raised by public members relating to the Lansdowne Road workers camp.

A resident of the area, advised that they had only been made aware recently of the proposal for a temporary workers camp for 3-5 years. Residents are concerned with the process and the application has not gone through the full approval processes that any of the residents would have to follow. The Camp Project Manager requested residents to sign a letter to support that advised they had no issues with the project. There is concern for the impact on the aquifer and agriculture farms of the area, increased traffic, and noise. The process appears that big business is being able to bypass the rules that any other resident would have to follow. There is seasonal work camp in the area where the owner went through the correct process. There are concerns that the company has no long term physical and emotional investment to Katherine therefore there will be no contribution to town. Residents spoke with the Minister at the show who claimed had no knowledge until starting to receive objection letters.

Another resident reiterated concern for water and lifestyle that is the reason they bought and live in the area. Other workers camps in the Katherine area that are already operational do have issues such as a knife fight that they do not want to happen where they live. The facility will have increase in power, water and noise, including not only the workers but the staff and supplies will

be extra to the area. It was reiterated that others who want to develop a block have to follow the process and that the project does not fit the lifestyle and agriculture use of the area.

Council advised that they support the residents and are objecting to the process. There has been discussions with the Minister and DIPL. Council advised that they were informed to the proposal and had only 24 hours to provide comment. Council will continue to support the residents and the broader community.

## 11 PETITIONS

Nil

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

NIL

## 13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

## 14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 14.1 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023 CONFERENCE

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-050-2023

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

To accept the report of the Chief Executive Officer for the attendance at the 2023 National General Assembly of Local Government.

**CARRIED 5/0**

Innovative ideas from the conference were covered by a presentation from Ukraine regarding Sister City arrangements which enables sharing of information between councils.

Emergency Funding is proposed to focus on better infrastructure not just replacement like for like.

### 14.2 CEO MEMBERSHIP TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHIEF OFFICER'S

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-051-2023

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

1. That the Council approve the CEO's membership to the Local Government Chief Officers Group.
2. That Council approve the CEO attendance to Local Government Chief Officers Group meetings as required through the membership obligation.

**CARRIED 5/0**

### **14.3 REVIEWED POLICIES**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-052-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

1. That Council approved the reviewed policies:
  - (a) Confidential Information Policy – Version 2; and
  - (b) Shared Services Policy – Version 2.

**CARRIED 5/0**

### **14.4 SUFFICIENT INTEREST IN THE ASSESSMENT RECORD POLICY - VERSION 2**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-053-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Bower

**Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

1. That Council:
  - (a) Approves the Sufficient Interest in the Assessment Record Policy – Version 2.

**CARRIED 5/0**

The policy had no changes during the review process.

### **14.5 KATHERINE PUBLIC LIBRARY OPERATIONAL FUNDING 2023-2028**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-054-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Councillor Kingdon

1. That Council:
  - (a) approve the Public Library Funding Agreement 2023 – 2028 with Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities for a period of five (5) years – 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2028

- (b) Authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to Affix the Common Seal

**CARRIED 5/0**

There is no reduction in funding from previous arrangements.

#### **14.6 ACQUITAL OF ADVENTURE PLAY PARK AMENITIES**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-055-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

1. That Council endorse the acquittal of grant funding IPG2100020 for the Katherine Sports Precinct - Adventure Play Park Amenities Renewal.

**CARRIED 5/0**

The amenity block is complete with landscaping to be completed through councils owned sourced revenue.

#### **14.7 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-056-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

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

**CARRIED 5/0**

#### **14.8 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-057-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Bower

**Seconded:** Councillor Trembath

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

**CARRIED 5/0**

The Community Grants program will close the end of August.

Council thanked Sinead and all involved with the show stall and expressed it was good fun. There was good community feedback, especially the street party.

## 14.9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-058-2023

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

1. That the Operations report of the Infrastructure and Environment Department for the month of June 2023 be received and noted.

**CARRIED 5/0**

CEO extended best wishes to our Infrastructure Services Manager who has become unexpectedly unwell.

There was a lot of interest in recycling at the show. The Kerbside recycling trial is now 6 weeks into the trial. Data will be reviewed at the end of the 6 month trial, following analysis, look at options for expanding across the council area. Council will be going to tender in August for the Kerbside collection contract with inclusion of recycling proposed in the scope.

## 15 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

Nil

## 146 ELECTED MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

### 16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-059-2023

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

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

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 15 LATE AGENDA

Nil



## 16 GENERAL BUSINESS

National Tree Day is on Sunday 30 July, community are encouraged to plant a tree.

The Maternity Ward renaming in recognition of Jim Scattini was a good fitting event, well done to all involved.

Raised that there is limited accessibility seating at the show with only high chairs.

Declaration of By-election will be live streamed at the CIVIC Centre 10.00am Monday 31 July.

Declaration to Office Ceremony of the By-Election will be held at the CIVIC Centre 10.00am Tuesday 1 August.

There are still many events of the Festival of the Dry to be held, check out the events coming up on the council website.

The Blue Sky Ball will be held Saturday 26 August, tickets are on sale.

Last night, Thursday 27 July was the last event for the Activate Katherine Food Collective.

## 17 CLOSURE MEETING TO PUBLIC

MAYOR

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

Section 99(2) gives power to council to close a meeting for public, which means that all members all public and press will be asked to leave the Council chambers, to discuss specific Issues 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.

DEPUTY MAYOR

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

The meeting was closed at 2.02pm.

## 18 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

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### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-060-2023

**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 2008:

### **20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - civ of the Local Government Act, 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.

## **20.2 Audit and Risk Management Committee Minutes 22 June 2023**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - civ of the Local Government Act, 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.

## **20.3 SHOW GROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - b of the Local Government Act, 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;.

## **20.4 LGMA - Leading Local Government Executive Management Programme**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - a of the Local Government Act, 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.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## **19 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING**

Open meeting was resumed at 2.36pm.

## **20.3 SHOW GROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**OCM-061-2023**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

1. That Council receive and note the report on nominations received for the Show Grounds Advisory Committee.
  - (a) That Council accept the nominations of representatives from the following Clubs and Associations to the Show Grounds Advisory Committee:
    - (i) AFLNT – Shannon Jackson
    - (ii) Australian Stock Horse Society – Kylie Leonhardt
2. That Council moves the resolution to the open minutes.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 20.4 LGMA - LEADING LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OCM-062-2023

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath

**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

- 1.
2. That Council endorse the CEO to progress discussions for establishing a Local Government Executive Management Programme in the Northern Territory.
3. That Council receive and note the update on the CEO visit to Redlands City Council on the 21 July 2023 and support the CEO engaging Redland City Council for expertise and innovation to improve Council operations.
4. That Council approve:
  - (a) moving resolutions 2 and 3 to the open meeting minutes, and
  - (b) resolution 1 remains confidential indefinitely.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 20 NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

That the next meeting of the Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 22 August 2023 12.00pm.

## 21 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 2.38pm.