



# MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council  
Held on Tuesday 28 November 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

Mayor Clark declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 November 2023 open at 12:00 pm.

## 4 ATTENDANCE

### 4.1 PRESENT

#### ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Elisabeth Clark (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
- Councillor Amanda Kingdon
- Councillor Peter McDougall
- Councillor Kerrie Mott
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath

#### OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Avtar Singh - Director Corporate Services
- Ms Rosemary Jennings – Director Community Services
- Amanda Haigh – Governance and Executive Officer (minute taker)
- Staff x 2

**PUBLIC** - 10

**MEDIA** - 1

### 4.2 APOLOGIES

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-123**

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



That Council accepts the apology of Councillor Bower.

**CARRIED 6|0**

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, 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**



## 7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 24 OCTOBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-124**

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 24 October 2023 as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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



## 7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 2 NOVEMBER 2023

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-125**

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 2 November 2023 as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

## 8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 8.1 ACTION UPDATE NOVEMBER 2023

#### **Discussion**

EV charging station will commence in 2 weeks with completion expected 25 January.

**ACTION** taken on notice: Early bird rates winner this year name has not been released. Advised that in past years the name has been released.

## 9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

### 9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-126**

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

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

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

#### **Discussion**

4 October - Development Consent Authority meetings are confidential and cannot provide detail. Current membership ends December and the Minister requested Council to provide nominations with no response yet by the Minister

6 October- Katherine Times refers to the fortnightly column providing council activities and meeting updates

7 October - Chamber of Commerce meeting - introduction of new board and update on Chamber of Commerce

13 October - Jesus Christ and Latter-day saints are looking for land in Katherine to build a church

26 October - Billion Dollar Partnership was held by Master Builders. Defence will invest more than \$6 billion over next four years into the territory. The session informed of the investment boost planned for Katherine.

Acopy of the document can be found at [Billion Dollar Partnership: The Defence Report – Master Builders Northern Territory \(NT\) \(mbnt.com.au\)](https://www.bmbnt.com.au/Billion-Dollar-Partnership-The-Defence-Report-Master-Builders-Northern-Territory-NT). Mayor noted of meeting the CEO and advised that they had not been to Katherine before.

Mayor confirmed formal invitation to the funeral of Sally King.

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

### 10.1 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING OCTOBER 2023

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-127**

**Moved:** Councillor Kingdon; **Seconded:** Councillor Trembath

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Letter - Ms Lambert - 50 Lansdowne Road Exceptional Development Permit - 1 November 2023 - 183535 [**10.1.1** - 3 pages]
  2. Letter - Mr Whitehouse - Sitzler EDP application - 1 November 2023 - 183536 [**10.1.2** - 3 pages]
  3. Letter - D Ford - Lansdowne Road Sitzler Camp - 1 November 2023 - 183537 [**10.1.3** - 3 pages]
  4. Letter - C Judson - 50 Lansdowne Road Workers Camp - 1 November 2023 - 183538 [**10.1.4** - 3 pages]

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

## 11 PETITIONS

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

Mayor welcomed Media attending - James Eaton from ABC, acknowledging that it has been a while since media have attended the meetings.

There was no Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 November 2023

## 13 NOTICE OF MOTION

## 14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 14.1 FINANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-128**

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

1. That Council monthly financial reporting is as per the Local Government Act 2019 approved form.
2. That the Council monthly financial reporting also includes:
  - a) Cash Investments held;
  - b) Internally restricted funds;
  - c) Statement on Debts owed to Council;
  - d) Statement on Debts owed by Council;
  - e) Statement on ATO and Payroll obligations; and
  - f) Current Ratio.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

#### **Discussion**

Councillor Mott queried the statement on page 44 of the request potentially contravenes sections of the

Act relating to Conflict of Interest, Confidential Information and Code of Conduct Cr Mott requested the specific sections referenced.

The council was advised that the matter was discussed at the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting and the independent member provide advice that in the Act, sections 110, 111, 114, 115, 116 and 117 were relevant in terms of conflicts of interest. Section 118 deals with Confidential Information. Section 119 deals with the Code of Conduct which is set out in Schedule 1. Schedule 3 which sets out Council information that can be made public.

## 14.2 PERPETUAL LEADERSHIP TROPHY

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-129**

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

That Council approve to continue the Perpetual Leadership Award provided to schools each year by supplying a take-home shield to:

- Casuarina Street Primary School
- McFarlane Primary School
- Katherine High School
- Clyde Fenton Primary School
- Katherine South Primary School
- St Joseph Catholic College – both primary and secondary
- Kintore Street School – both primary and secondary
- Katherine School of the Air - both primary and middle school

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

### **Discussion**

Noted this a great initiative implemented by the Mayor.

## 14.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-130**

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

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

**CARRIED 6|0**

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



AGAINST: Nil

**Discussion**

Noted the library is doing a good job with programs being very interactive for the kids.  
Advised that access to the Bubbles not always working although there has been some feedback that the bubbles are helping people to learn more about council. Noted the council meeting agenda and annual report are now available at the Library.  
Confirmed that the 3D printing workshop, Seniors story time and Grandparents Day were all separate events.  
Acknowledged the christmas calendar of events is a fantastic initiative.  
International mens day golf event was a first time and great success.

**14.4 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-131**

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

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

**CARRIED 5|1**

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

**Discussion**

Noted BOQ is a new investment.  
Page 57 - streetlighting has currently zero expenditure and budget. Suggestion for future funding of streetlighting be obtained as there is still a lot of dark spaces.  
Footpaths and cycleways also noted as zero expenditure and budget. Improvements continue on footpaths as per the Municipal Plan, although works will be on hold over the wet season.

**14.5 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-132**

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

That Council receives and notes the Corporate Services Report for the month of October 2023.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

**Discussion**

Noted animal control reduced since last year with congratulations to the team on the work being done behind the scenes with responsible pet ownership education.

Waste services requests are still high mainly due to replacing bins.  
Congratulation to the Infrastructure team on the town cemetery management with public providing positive feedback recently.  
Suggestion of painting the wall as exiting the cemetery.

## 14.6 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-133**

**Moved:** Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receives and notes the report of the Infrastructure and Environment Department for the month of October 2023.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

### **Discussion**

Aquatic centre upgrade update - still talking with the Commonwealth Government to finalise the funding agreement noting have not signed the agreement yet, but close. Consultation has occurred with the swimming club. Once the funding agreement is finalised then further community consultation will occur including recommendations on best time for the pool to be closed while works take place.  
Page 68 advises of 5 playgrounds that will undertake minor repairs to meet non-compliance, there will be no risk to users.

## 15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

## 16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

### 16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2023

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2023-134**

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

That Council receives and notes the Elected Member activities for October 2023.

**CARRIED 6|0**

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

Councillor Mott provided apologies for not submitting and will include October activities in November.  
Deputy Mayor Coburn also provided apologies for not submitting and will include October activities in November.

## 17 LATE AGENDA

## 18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Katherine Christian Book Shop opening on 2 December.

Katherine Christmas Markets at YMCA on 2 December.

PFAS independent review was on last Monday seeking input to current and future land use around the RAFF base. There was good discussion by the few that turned up although disappointed not more from red zone. More people could have taken the opportunity.

LGANT conference was fantastic where CEO provided a really impressive presentation on the bubbles. Katherine Tree Maintenance also did a presentation on their business moving into recycling tyres and getting into circular economy.

Chief Minister Christmas function was a great event where the Chief Minister advised that she will come and talk to council - **invitation to Chief Minister and her Cabinet to be actioned**

The new bus shelter looks magnificent unfortunately already seeing some damage. This is a significant milestone although it requires some improvements such as seating and would like to see the council work with DIPL to have these improvements actioned.

Congratulations to our council staff Rosemary Jennings and Casey Anderson and also the Mayor for recognition of service with Local Government at the LGANT conference.

Pop Rocket is now closed for the year.

Thanks to Council for golf day which was lots of fun.

Deputy Mayor advised that push bike repairs will now occur at the Men's Shed.

There were 6 Katherine Businesses that won at the Brolga awards with congratulations to winners Katherine Outback Experience, Nitmiluk Tours and Cicada Lodge, Gorge View Bush Retreat, Contour Hotel and Top Didj Cultural Experience and Art Gallery. This is a huge achievement for Katherine and our region.

Thankyou to CDU for the donation of the Purple Chair which has been installed at the old war memorial. The Purple chair initiative is to raise awareness of domestic violence.

Condolences to Robert and Sharon Buzzo and the King family for their loss.

## 19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

**Moved:** Mayor Clark; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

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.

## 20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

#### 20.1.1 Minutes of the Confidential Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 October 2023

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council of 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:	(a) 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.

### 20.2 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

#### 20.2.1 Minutes of the Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting 25 October 2023

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council of 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.

## 21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 1:13 pm.

## 22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 November 2023 was declared closed at 1:14 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 12 December 2023.