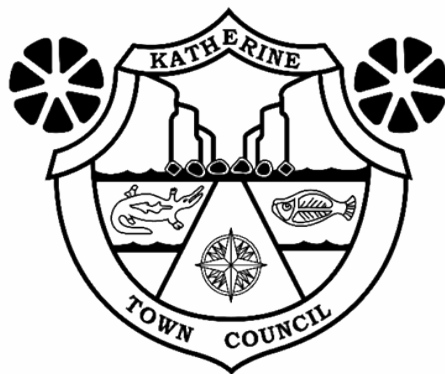




MINUTES

**Special Meeting of Council
Held on Friday 26 June 2026**

Main Office, Conference Room
29 Crawford Street, 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 Holden declared the Special Meeting of Council - 26 June 2026 open at 12:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts

OFFICERS

- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk

PUBLIC - 2

4.2 APOLOGIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-16

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

1. That Council accepts the apology of Councillor Palmer, due to the leave of absence.
2. That Council accepts the apology of Councillor Glass, due to the short notice of the meeting.

CARRIED 5|0

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 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

6.1 DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-14

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor King

1. That Council acknowledges the Chief Executive Officer, certified the Certification of Assessment Record as true and accurate record; and
2. That Council declare:
 - (a) Items one (1) to seven (7) in the attached Declaration of Rates and Waste Charges 2026/2027 for the financial year ending 30 June 2027, pursuant to Section 237 and 238 of the *Local Government Act NT 2019*.

CARRIED 5|0

Discussion

The term 'Chief Executive Officer' encompasses any acting appointment to the role, therefore, the recommendation does not need to separately reference an Acting CEO.

6.2 2026-2027 MUNICIPAL PLAN, BUDGET, AND FEES AND CHARGES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-15

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council adopt the Budget for 2026-2027.
2. That Council adopt the Municipal Plan for 2026-2027 with the following changes:
 - a. Page 2 added the Council Vision, Mission and Values
 - b. Page 3 Acting CEO signature straight alignment
 - c. Page 8 the dates changed to reflect the consultation period (2 to 23 June 2026) and the meeting date (26 June 2026) for approval of the plan
 - d. Page 33 including category descriptions for all Zones
 - e. Page 34 replacing the photo with the original photo
 - f. Page 38 change Council Committee Costs to Council Committee Expenses
 - g. Page 42 note added under the table: 'Loan funding for Civic Centre Refurbishment - Council has secured a Loan of \$5M from the Commonwealth Bank.'
 - h. Page 44 change spelling of Craighbourn to Cragborn, and Zimmin to Zimin
3. That Council adopt the Fees and Charges for 2026-2027.
4. That Council adopt the 2026-2027 Municipal Plan Snapshot.
5. That Council rescind the Rating Strategy Policy – Version 9.

CARRIED 5|0

Discussion

That Council acknowledged the effort by the staff to ensure the Municipal Plan, Budget, and Rates and

Charges met statutory requirements and deadlines.

6.3 YOUTH OFFENDER ACTIVITIES PROJECT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-16

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, to advocate to Ministers, government agencies, businesses, and other organisations to secure funding for the delivery of a short-term series of activities designed to interrupt the cycle of youth offending in Katherine.
2. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, and Acting CEO, Casey Anderson, to facilitate funding for the delivery of these activities through Brother to Another, with a subcontracting arrangement to Jeremy Donovan, Native Artz, subject to satisfactory reference checks.

CARRIED 5|0

Discussion

The Councillors were informed that Mr McCann, Chief Executive Officer of Kununurra Waringari Aboriginal Corporation (KWAC) and Mr Donovan of Native Artz had recently engaged with number of youth offenders in Katherine and received positive feedback, with activities such as fishing and football helping build rapport. It was highlighted that the proposed program aims to recruit 6-8 local indigenous youth workers, and local providers believe the timing is important due to school holidays and recent increases in offending, making early intervention valuable.

It was clarified that the program is a short-term intervention, focused on immediate engagement rather than life-skills training. The activities are intended to act as a circuit-breaker and link young people with longer-term service providers who can deliver ongoing support. The program would be delivered by Jeremy Donovan through Brother to Another. The decision being asked of Council's approval for the Mayor to contact agencies, and write letters to support the funding of the program.

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 12:11 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-17

Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Doyle

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.



8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 12:11 pm.

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Special Meeting of Council - 26 June 2026 was declared closed at 12:11 pm.

UNCONFIRMED