



**MINUTES**

**OF THE**

**ORDINARY MEETING**

**OF COUNCIL**

**HELD**

**TUESDAY 28 JULY 2015**

**AT**

**6.00 pm**

**Council Chambers Civic Centre**  
**Stuart Highway, Katherine**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY 28 JULY 2015 AT 6.00 PM**

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**1. OPENING PRAYER**

**2. PRESENT**

Mayor Fay Miller  
Deputy Mayor Donald Higgins  
Alderman Lis Clark  
Alderman Peter Gazey

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Neroli Dickens – Director Works & Services / Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Claire Johansson – Director Corporate & Community Services  
Mr David Moore – Operations Manager

11 x members of the Katherine Community

1 x member of the Media

Mr Nathanael Knapp, Department of Local Government and Community Services

Mrs Heather Kirk – Minute Taker

**3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Members Leave of Absence and Apologies

That the apologies of Alderman Phillips, Alderman Tapp-Coutts and Alderman Rose are accepted and leave granted.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes

MOVED: Clark/Gazey

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 23 June 2015 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

That the Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 June 2015 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED: 4/0

## 5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Business Arising from Previous Minutes

### 5.1 Minutes of the Katherine Sportsgrounds Precinct Advisory Committee Meeting

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

Council accept the endorsed motion:

That permission for a shipping container to be placed next to the Don Dale building for the Katherine Football Club to use as storage is granted.

CARRIED: 4/0

### 5.2 Confidential Minutes

MOVED: Gazey/Higgins

Council accept the recommendation that one property be removed from the list as the owners have entered into a direct debit arrangement.

CARRIED: 4/0

## 6. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

- Alderman Gazey declared a conflict – he is a member of the Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club which comes up in a late agenda item.

## 7. **MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered

Her Worship the Mayor attended the following meetings for the month of June 2015:

- Katherine Times Mayors Message x 5
- Meeting with Katherine School of the Air
- Meeting with Katherine Local Member
- Meeting with ArtbackNT
- Elected Members Workshops
- Meeting with REDC Committee and Executive Director, Northern Australia Development Office
- ABC Grassroots Radio Interview
- Meeting with TIO
- Meeting with Community Member x 4
- Meeting with Chamber of Commerce
- Katherine 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Advisory Committee Meeting
- Meeting with Probus
- Elected Members Market Stall
- Memorial Service
- Reception to Celebrate SKYCITY Triple Crown Event V8 Supercars Championship – Darwin

- Meeting with KREDC Chair
  - LGANT Executive Teleconference
  - Meeting with Alderman Phillips
  - Meeting with NT News
  - Open Forum
  - Council Meeting
  - ABC Interview
  - Katherine Times Photoshoot x 2
  - Katherine Radio Interview
  - Food Ladder Presentation
  - Meeting with Justice Reinvestment in Katherine
  - Katherine School of the Air Annual Sports Day
  - Meeting with Chamber of Commerce
  - Meeting with DLPE
  - GYRACC farewell for Cath Bowdler
  - Dinner, Manager TIO
  - Katherine Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee
- On Saturday night, 25 July 2015, Katherine Town Council held our first Mayoral Community Benefit Dinner Dance in the Civic Centre grounds. Considering the incidents leading up to the dinner, and the number of events that were on the same night I was pleased with the number of people who supported this fundraiser for the Katherine Cancer Working Group.

A very big thank you to the businesses and people who supported the auction especially those who donated goods. Thank you to Whitehouse Furnishers, Danny Murphy, Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk Tours, Katherine Mitre 10, Terrace Emporium, Fe's Variety, Bush Boutique, Top Didj, Hourglass Jewellers, Val and John Dyer – Hayfield Station, Belinda Marshall and Kevin Grey.

I would also like to acknowledge Mahogany for their delicious catering and the BMX team for looking after the bar.

At this time the final tally for donation to the Katherine Cancer Working Group is not available but I anticipate it will be just over \$5,000. A fantastic effort for a very worthy cause. Of course some credit must go to our head Auctioneer for the evening – Alderman Peter Gazey – ably assisted by Deputy Mayor Henry Higgins.

None of this would have happened without the very efficient organisation skills of our Community Support Officer Rosemary Jennings. Thank you Rosemary.

- I would also like to acknowledge the Katherine and District Show Society for the presentation and content of the 2015 Show held on 17 and 18 July. An enormous effort goes into the preparation for this major community event – mostly with the assistance of volunteers. All credit to you for your efforts again this year. I would like to also acknowledge for the record Deputy Mayor Henry Higgins receiving his Honorary Life Membership to the Katherine and District Show Society along with Peter Farnden and Roger and Kim Pate. Congratulations and well deserved.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED**

Nil

## **9. QUESTIONS**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

### **9.1 With Notice**

Nil

### **9.2 Without Notice**

- Deputy Mayor Higgins questioned why the Airport Report was included as a late confidential item.
- The CEO advised that during and after the meeting Council had with the Department of Defence, they advised that they wished certain items to remain confidential. Some of these items are contained within the late report. A document will be prepared to be issued to the public.

## **10. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

## **11. REPORT OF OFFICERS**

### **11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2015**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Reports

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

That the Chief Executive Officer Report for the month of June 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4/0

- Alderman Clark asked about the Katherine Flood Mitigation – where is this at?
- Mayor Miller advised the draft report has been released and is on the website. Mayor Miller will organise for a copy to be issued to the Elected Members.

### **11.2 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2015**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works and Services Division Reports

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That the report of the Works & Services Division for the month of June 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4/0

### 11.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JUNE 2015

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

- Mayor Miller advised of some anomalies which were identified at the Elected Members Workshop which have been rectified and the correct page was issued – to be inserted at page 25.
- The CEO advised that on 12 and 19 June two (2) payments were made – there is an error in the figures. On 4 June for Katherine Amcal Pharmacy there were two (2) payments for the same amount, this is an error, only one payment should have been made.

MOVED: Higgins/Gazey

That Council endorse the Financial Report for the month of June 2015.

CARRIED: 4/0

### 11.4 RYAN PARK – KATHERINE COMMUNITY MARKET COMMITTEE

File: Property Management / Hire / Ryan Park – Property Hire – Community Market

MOVED: Clark/Gazey

**That it be recommended to Council:**

1. To agree to reinitiate negotiations with the Katherine Community Market Committee for the sustainable occupation of Council facilities into the future;
2. That the safety and infrastructure concerns as presented at Ryan Park be recognised and form the basis of any further negotiations with the Katherine Community Market Committee
3. That it take into consideration during its deliberations the practicality and validity of utilising the Lindsay Street Complex, based on the safety and infrastructure capacity which the site presents, for the purpose of hosting market events; and
4. A final report based on these negotiated outcomes is ratified by Council with the view to adopting those recommendations within these next six (6) months.

CARRIED: 4/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins commented on point three (3) – it is time the Council does some serious number crunching. We are spending a large amount of money to maintain Ryan Park, and also maintain Lindsay Street Complex. It should be put to the Market Committee that there is a time limit and it is time to consider moving.
- Alderman Gazey spoke to point 3, the inference is that the Lindsay Street complex is safer and has more parking. On a Saturday morning it is already congested. There requires to be further discussion and a decision made.

- Deputy Mayor Higgins disagreed. There is still plenty of vacant land for car parking, no one has to cross the road, the facility is purpose built for markets and the fence in general makes the whole place safer for everyone concerned.
- Alderman Clark added that there requires to be a lot more discussion. The markets have been held at Lindsay Street successfully previously. There is the safety issue of the Highway to consider.
- Mayor Miller thinks the above four (4) points are very pertinent. Thinks it will take up to six (6) months to resolve.
- Deputy Mayor Higgins is happy with recommendation as it stands. Does not think having the markets at Ryan Park is in Council's best interest.
- Mayor Miller commented that it is a headache to try and control traffic, and last Saturday customers cars were parked on the grassed area, causing damage to sprinklers.

#### **11.5 MINUTES OF THE KATHERINE SHOWGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – 12 JUNE 2015**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Katherine Sportsgrounds / Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee / 2015 Sportsgrounds Precinct Advisory Committee Meetings

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That the Minutes of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 June 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4/0

#### **11.6 MINUTES OF THE KATHERINE SHOWGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING – 30 JUNE 2015**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Katherine Sportsgrounds / Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee / 2015 Sportsgrounds Precinct Advisory Committee Meetings

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That the Minutes of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee Special Meeting held on 30 June 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins thanked David Moore for chairing the meeting as Deputy Mayor Higgins was fulfilling other duties.

**11.7 MINUTES OF THE KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING – 30 JUNE 2015**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Katherine Sportsgrounds / Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee / 2015 Sportsgrounds Precinct Advisory Committee Meetings

MOVED: Clark/Gazey

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That the Minutes of the Katherine Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee Special Meeting held on 30 June 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4/0

**11.8 ACQUITTAL – 2015 LIBRARY OPERATIONAL FUNDING**

File: Finance / Grant Funding / NT Library

MOVED: Higgins/Gazey

That it be recommended to Council:

That the acquittal for the 2014/2015 Library Operational Funding be received and noted and the acquittal be forwarded to Northern Territory Library, Department of Arts and Museums.

CARRIED: 4/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins asked about the deficit – is this our money? The CEO confirmed this is correct. The Director Corporate & Community Services advised this is the difference between the operating expenditure and what we acquit back to the Library for funding but we did receive additional funding.

**11.9 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

File: Finance / Grant Funding / NT Grants Commission

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

**That the Council:**

1. Acknowledge the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of Council's services and infrastructure;
2. Acknowledge that Katherine Town Council will receive \$1,010,140 in the 2014/2015 financial year;
3. Will ensure that this Federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in all Katherine Town Council publications (in order to highlight the importance and impacts of the grants); and
4. Support ALGA and state local government associations in advocating to have the Federal Government reverse the decision to freeze the indexation of FAGs.

CARRIED: 4/0



- Mayor Miller advised all local governments have been asked to provide this letter in support of maintaining financial assistance grants and to get the indexation restored.

#### **11.10 EMUNGALAN ROAD FLOOD IMMUNITY WORKS – PROCUREMENT PROCESSES**

File: Roads Civil and Traffic Works / Planning / Roads – Emungalan Road

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

##### **That it be recommended to Council:**

1. That support be given to Section 30(1) (a)(ii) – consultancy or other professional services, and Section 30(2) (a) – the Territory, of the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, being applied to the procurement of those services associated with the Emungalan Road Flood Immunity project – Nixon’s Crossing.

CARRIED: 4/0

#### **11.11 AMENDMENT TO 2015/2016 FEES AND CHARGES STRUCTURE – WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY**

File: Finance / Budgeting / Fees and Charges

MOVED: Gazey/Clark

##### **That it be recommended to Council:**

1. To endorse an amendment to the 2015/16 Fees and Charges Structure to include the provision of “Operator and machinery hire to bury/move waste will be at \$187.00 (including GST) per hour”, under Waste Management Facility – Weighbridge Charges.
2. To endorse an amendment for the disposal of vehicles in the 2015/16 Fees and Charges Structure.

CARRIED: 4/0

- Alderman Gazey asked about commercial dumping. The Director Works & Services advised commercial dumping is from a registered company. An individual disposing of an unwanted vehicle would not be classed as commercial.

#### **11.12 PLACE NAMES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Place Names Committee

MOVED: Clark/Gazey

That Council:

1. Approves the proposed road name – being Paterson Court; and
2. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to formally convey this decision to the Place Names Committee for the Northern Territory.

CARRIED: 4/0

### **11.13 DRAFT LEASE ARRANGEMENT – YOUTH CLUB**

File: Lots 72 & 73

MOVED: Gazey/Clark

That Council:

Endorses the draft lease arrangement with Business Assist NT Pty Ltd in partnership with the Katherine Women's Organic Association for the operation of an organic hydroponic community garden, in the first instance, and a point of sale for produce in the future upon Lots 72 & 73 – Second Street, Katherine.

CARRIED: 4/0

- The CEO advised that there have been minor amendments to the Lease which has been sent to the lessees.

### **12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES**

File: Community Relations / Committees / Elected Member Representatives on Committees

The following meetings/activities were attended by the Elected Members in June:

#### **Alderman Peter Gazey**

Open Forum  
Ordinary Council Meeting  
Elected Members Workshops  
Council Market Stall  
Freedom of Information and Privacy Talk  
Katherine East Community Forum  
Territory Day Photo Shoot

#### **Alderman Steven Rose**

N/A

#### **Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts**

N/A

#### **Alderman Rob Phillips**

N/A

#### **Deputy Mayor Donald Higgins**

Open Forum  
Ordinary Council Meeting  
Elected Members Workshops Workshops  
Food Ladder Presentation  
Territory Day Photo Shoot  
Farewell for Cath Bowdler  
Rehearsals for K town Dance Massive x 3  
Freedom of Information and Privacy Talk

**Alderman Lis Clark**

Open Forum  
Council Meeting  
Elected Members Workshops  
Green Snaps Photography Presentation  
Council Market Stall  
Katherine East Community Forum  
Ordinary Women Extraordinary Lives

**13. LATE AGENDA**

**13.1** File: Finance / Grant Funding / Katherine Festival Grants 2015

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

This item lay on table as there are not enough members to vote

CARRIED: 3/0

**That it be recommended to Council:**

1. That Council approve the awarding of the following grants as per the recommendations of the Festival Grants Assessment Committee Correspondence attached.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Katherine Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club Katherine Inc.	Show 'n' Shine	\$500.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

2. That Council amend the guidelines for future Festival Grants to allow for the purchasing of trophies.

CARRIED:

**14. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Mayor Miller reminded everyone that the 40<sup>th</sup> Katherine Prize is being held on Friday night at GYRACC.
- Thursday 6 August at 10am Mayor Miller is hosting the Seniors morning tea – all Elected Members are invited. Probus will be giving a small presentation and there will also be a small video that has been developed by NT Friendship and Support showing interviews with seniors. Mayor Miller encouraged the Elected Members to let all seniors know this is happening, and also invited them to the morning tea.
- Alderman Clark asked about the Ice committee. Alderman Gazey advised that this was well attended by people in the field of health and related services. There were only 4-5 members from the community. The quality of stories and openness of information made it worthwhile for everyone.
- Alderman Gazey will be attending the Variety Dash from next Saturday and gave his apologies for not attending the events previously mentioned. Variety Bash will be coming through Katherine on Thursday 6 August.

- Mayor Miller advised that the Children's Commissioner was here yesterday. It is alarming to realise the amount of children that are homeless. Feels the forum should be open to the public so they can attend and learn what issues are in the Katherine region.
- Alderman Clark commented on the increase in young children out during the night getting up to mischief, and doing a lot of damage.

**15. PETITIONS**

Nil

**16. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That standing orders be suspended to allow Council to consider a confidential matter in Committee.

Meeting closed to the public. All members of the public left the Chambers.

CARRIED: 4/0

**16.1 SALE OF PROPERTY – FOR UNPAID RATES**

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

CARRIED: 4/0

**16.2 CEO KEY RESULT AREAS**

MOVED: Gazey/Clark

CARRIED: 4/0

**CONFIDENTIAL LATE AGENDA ITEM**

**16.3 PROGRESS OF THE LEASE AND OTHER ASSOCIATED MATTERS FOR THE KATHERINE CIVIL AIRPORT**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confidential Items / 2015 Confidential Reports

MOVED: Clark/Gazey

CARRIED: 4/0

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That Council resume the meeting.

CARRIED: 4/0

17. **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting was closed at 6.49pm.

Fay Miller  
**MAYOR OF KATHERINE**