



MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING

OF COUNCIL

HELD

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 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 22 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 6.00 PM

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PRESENT

Mayor Fay Miller
Deputy Mayor Donald Higgins
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Peter Gazey
Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts
Alderman Steven Rose

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer
Ms Neroli Dickens – Director Works & Services/Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Ms Wilma Walters – A/Community Services Executive Manager
Mr David Moore – Operations Manager
Mrs Heather Kirk – Minute Taker
Ms Sarah Bevington – Customer Services Officer

Mr Nathaniel Knapp – Department of Local Government and Community Services

8 x members of the Katherine Community
1 x member of the Media

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

That the apologies of Alderman Rob Phillips and Alderman Lis Clark be accepted and leave granted.

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 25 August 2015 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

That the Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 August 2015.

CARRIED: 6/0

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

6. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

- Alderman Gazey declared a conflict of interest for item 11.4, Community Grants, as he is an active member of the Motor Enthusiasts Club.
- Alderman Rose declared a conflict with the Community Markets 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 August 2015:

- Katherine Times Mayors Message x 2
- Meet with Probus
- Meet with Simmone Croft, Museum
- Development Consent Authority Meeting X 1
- 5AA Radio Interview
- Senior Citizens Morning Tea
- ALGWA NT Annual General Meeting (Teleconference)
- Variety Bash
- Meeting with Police Commander Porter x 2
- Meeting with Member of the Public X 2
- Meet with Katherine Times
- Skills & Careers Expo
- Meet with Developing the North GM – Luke Bowen
- Elected Members Workshop
- KAAG Meeting x 2
- Meet with Top End Health Manager
- ABC Grassroots Interview
- Sommerville Morning Tea
- Katherine Historical Society Meeting
- Meeting with Chamber of Commerce x 2
- Seniors Month at St Paul's Anglican Church
- Thoughts and Visions for the Future – The Chief Minister – Teleconference
- RAAF Tindal Meeting
- Long Tan Day – Katherine Cenotaph
- Teddy Bears Picnic
- Home Business Expo
- Katherine Speedway
- Citizenship Ceremony
- Council Meeting
- KREDC Meeting
- Cancer Working Group Meeting
- Katherine Sport and Rec Meeting
- St Josephs 'Read A Thon'
- Meet with YouthWorx NT
- Meet with Minister Willem Westra van Holthe
- Developing the North - Department of the Chief Minister

- Mayor Miller thanked Heather Kirk for the service provided to KTC and commitment to the staff and Elected Members and wished her and her husband the very best on their move to Darwin. She welcomed Sarah Bevington to the meeting, who will be taking over the role of Executive Assistant.
- Over recent weeks the CEO Robert Jennings and I have been focusing on driving some key priorities and future planning for Katherine. The CEO prepared a short powerpoint presentation of Katherine now and into the future, which has been presented to the Elected Members, Luke Bowen, CEO of Developing the North in addition to several other stakeholders.
- The key areas of focus are Transport, Tourism, Defence and Housing. The Katherine Region Economic Development (KREDC) Committee is the connectivity between the community and Northern Territory Government. Katherine Town Council is working in collaboration with the various agencies to collate the information and strategies – all of which will be included in Katherine Town Council's long term strategic plan.
- A Transport Committee has been formed and is focussing on the alternate heavy route and the transport hub. We have set up regular meetings with Defence to strengthen our connectivity. The Local Tourism Advisory Committee is the lead advisory group for marketing and tourism development in the region, and will be supported through the KREDC.
- Shortage of transitional and short term housing is a major problem for Katherine as is highlighted in the available data. I am a member of KAAG (Katherine Accommodation Action Group) working committee to identify the agencies and areas that should be supported by both the Territory and Federal Government. We are still in the process of gaining and collating evidential data which will identify how and where the support should be.
- On the subject of housing, it has been announced by the Federal Government that all States and the Territory will be asked to house the additional thousands of Syrian refugees who will be relocated to Australia very shortly. It is suggested that the NT will have approximately 1600 with a guesstimate of somewhere around 400 for Katherine. This announcement was on ABC radio and at this time has not been formalised to Katherine Town Council. There will be a time frame for these people seeking a new life to be evaluated before they are relocated. We also need some time to prepare. This morning I listened to David Barcroft on the ABC. David is head of the Australian Homestay Network. This network has provided successful accommodation for eligible refugees interstate over recent years. David is seeking support from people who are interested in providing homestay accommodation to register online at www.homestaynetwork.org. that site will also provide you with relevant information about what it is to be a host.

Mayor Miller asked Deputy Mayor Higgins to move that we accept the late agenda item.

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

CARRIED: 6/0

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

Nil

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

11. REPORT OF OFFICERS

11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2015

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

MOVED: Clark/Tapp-Coutts

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

CARRIED: 6/0

- The CEO advised of an error on page 10 relating to complaints received. Two (2) ranger complaints have been recorded, this should have been one (1) complaint against the Works Department. This is incorrect as it was not a Council Department involved in the works.
- Mayor Miller congratulated the Visitor Information Centre staff for the seven (7) nominations for Super Deeds Awards.
- Alderman Tapp-Coutts noted a 1% increase from last year.
- Alderman Clark noted another 25 animals at large, they seem to be increasing every month. She also congratulated the Visitor Information Centre for the good reports received.

11.2 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2015

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

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts/Gazey

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

CARRIED: 6/0

11.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – AUGUST 2015

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Clark/Higgins

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

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Rose noted the additional Executive Summary which makes for easy reading and understanding.

11.4 COMMUNITY GRANTS – ACCEPTANCE OF SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS

File: Finance / Grant Funding / KTC Community Grants 2015

MOVED: Clark/Tapp-Coutts

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Council approve the awarding of the following grants as per the recommendations of the Community Grants Assessment Committee Minutes of Thursday the 3 September 2015.

Community Group (Up to \$2,000)

Organization	Project	Amount
Katherine Region Stolen Generation Aboriginal Incorporation	Interpretive Board – Garden of Remembrance	\$2,000.00
Katherine & District Show Society	Children’s Art & Craft Workshops at 2016 Show	\$2,000.00
Katherine Branch, National Trust of Australia	DVD Player, TV & TV Wall Mount	\$1,158.00
Somerville Community Services	Youth Activity	\$1,500.00
	TOTAL	\$6,658.00

Major Event (Maximum \$5,000)

Organization	Event	Amount
Katherine Community Radio	Replace ABC Transmitter	\$5,000.00
Chamber of Commerce	Christmas Street Party	\$5,000.00
Katherine Museum	Mac Project – Solar Energy for Air-conditioning	\$5,000.00
Motor Vehicle Enthusiastic Incorporated	A Model Ford Rally	\$5,000.00
	TOTAL	\$20,000.00

2. That Council approve the recommendations made in General Business.

CARRIED: 5/0

- Alderman Rose is looking forward to the Katherine Radio getting Triple J up and running; \$5000 is only for equipment and they will still be responsible for the ongoing running costs.

11.5 ACQUITTAL – FAMILY SAFE - ENVIRONMENT FUND GRANT

File: Finance / Grant Funding / Department of Local Government and Regions

MOVED: Higgins/Gazey

That it be recommended to Council:

That the acquittal for the 2013/2014 Family Safe Environment Fund Grants be received and noted and the acquittal be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and Regions.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.6 RYAN PARK – PROGRESS REPORT

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

Alderman Rose excused himself from the meeting.

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That Council:

1. Note the report findings progress and future plans for discussions between the Katherine Community Markets Committee and the Katherine Town Council;
2. Require an update report on the discussions and actions between the Katherine Community Markets Committee and the Katherine Town Council on the Ryan Street Markets be provided to Council in two (2) months' time as part of the six (6) month process; and
3. Determine to spend \$2200 (GST Inclusive) on a Road Safety Audit of the Lindsay Street Complex.

CARRIED: 5/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins is a strong opponent to the current market location, for the cost and safety factors. He hopes that the market committee audit report and the KTC audit committee report will show the obvious safety differences.
- Alderman Tapp-Coutts supports Deputy Mayor Higgins on the cost and safety issues. The road safety issues will never be resolved. The park is for the people. We have spent a lot of money trying to keep the park green. It is time the markets moved to the Lindsay Street Complex, which is purpose built.
- Alderman Gazey is looking forward to reading the audits and making a decision based on that information. If we can mitigate the risks, then he believes the markets should continue at their current location.
- Alderman Clark commented that it is disheartening that the market committee sought legal advice. This is a very emotive decision. She is perturbed that the Committee have threatened to close the markets if they are made to move to Lindsay Street.
- Mayor Miller is also interested in reading the audit reports. The biggest factor is safety, she has grave concerns about this. It is incorrect to state that it will be the fault of Katherine Town Council if the markets close. Will not make a decision until she has read the reports.
- Alderman Tapp-Coutts commented that the markets need to stop treating Council like the enemy. The Lindsay Street Complex can provide everything the market requires.
- Alderman Gazey attended a community market meeting where the KTC Operational Manager was present. It was a good discussion, and KTC staff were not treated as the enemy.

Alderman Rose rejoined the meeting.

11.7 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – KATHERINE & DISTRICT SHOW SOCIETY – FUNDING

File: Legal Documents / Memorandum of Understanding – Katherine & District Show Society / Funding

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts/ Clark

That Council:

1. Endorse the amended Memorandum of Understanding between Katherine Town Council and the Katherine & District Show Society Incorporated for annual financial and in-kind support from Council.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to sign and endorse the attached Memorandum of Understanding.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins moved an amendment to the recommendation, to add a third dot point

MOVED: Higgins/Gazey

- The grant within the MOU be amended to not include a CPI increase each year of the agreement but to remain at \$5,000 for the term of the agreement

CARRIED: 6/0

11.8 APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORISED PERSONS

File: Local Governance /Authorisation

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts/ Gazey

MOVED: Higgins/ Clark

- Deputy Mayor Higgins queried page 94 which states to exercise powers under relevant act as appropriate to role. Page 95 has the same start but there is a bit missing. This should be amended to include 'as appropriate to the role'.

CARRIED: 6/0

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That pursuant to Part 9.6, Division 1 of the *Local Government Act* that Council appoints:

To Exercise the Powers of authorised person under the Local Government Act	Person										
	Robert Jennings	Neroli Dickens	Claire Johansson	Andrew Wilson	Colleen Kerr	David Moore	Karmen Thomas	Mark Flynn	Scott Mannion	Sophie Henderson	Steven Jackson

To Exercise the Powers under other relevant Acts as appropriate to the role	Person										
	Robert Jennings	Neroli Dickens	Claire Johansson	Andrew Wilson	Colleen Kerr	David Moore	Karmen Thomas	Mark Flynn	Scott Mannion	Sophie Henderson	Steven Jackson

To Exercise the Powers under the Katherine Town Council By Laws	Person										
	Robert Jennings	Neroli Dickens	Claire Johansson	Andrew Wilson	Colleen Kerr	David Moore	Karmen Thomas	Mark Flynn	Scott Mannion	Sophie Henderson	Steven Jackson

10	Requirements for execution of works	X	X	X			X		X	X		
19	Power of arrest or removal	X	X	X			X					
21	Fixed penalties	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
42	Interpretation	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
64	Seizure, &c., of animals	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
86	Signs, hoardings and advertising	X	X	X			X			X		
87	Handbills	X	X	X			X				X	
93	Camping or sleeping in public space	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
94	Shopping trolleys	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
96	Removal of persons from reserve or mall	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		

100	Control of vehicular traffic, &c., in malls	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
102	Dress and conduct at public swimming pools, &c.	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
103	Removal of persons from swimming pools, &c.	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
107	Obligations of stallholders associations	X	X	X								
109	Obligations of stallholders	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
120	Powers of librarians	X	X	X		X					X	

As an authorised person/s for the purpose of exercising the powers under the *Local Government Act* and the Katherine Town Council's By Laws in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

2. That pursuant to Part 9.6, Division 1 of the *Local Government Act* that Council revokes all previous appointment/s.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.9 MINUTES OF THE KATHERINE SHOWGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – 20 AUGUST 2015

File: Community Relations / Committees / Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee / 2015 Showgrounds Advisory Committee Meeting

MOVED: Higgins/Tapp-Coutts

That it be recommended to Council:

The Minutes of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee Meeting held on 20 August 2015 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.10 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HELD ON THE 10 SEPTEMBER 2015

File: Finance / Audit / Audit Committee

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council receives and notes the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on the 10 September 2015

CARRIED: 6/0

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 August:

Alderman Peter Gazey

Open Forum
Ordinary Council Meeting
Elected Members Workshops

Alderman Steven Rose

Elected Members Workshop
Ordinary Council Meeting
Chamber of Commerce Meeting
Meeting with KTC CEO

Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts

Elected Members Workshop
Ordinary Council Meeting

Alderman Rob Phillips

N/A

Deputy Mayor Donald Higgins

Open Forum
Ordinary Council Meeting
Elected Members Workshops
Citizenship Ceremony
Meeting with KTC CEO and Operations Manager
Vietnam Veterans Day
Developing the North Information Session

Alderman Lis Clark

Open Forum
Council Meeting
Elected Members Workshops
Citizenship Ceremony
Meet with KTC CEO
Seniors Morning Tea
Vietnam Veterans Day
Meet with KTC CEO and Director GYRACC
Developing the North Information Session
Somerville Morning Tea
RAAF Tindal Meeting

13. LATE AGENDA

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

File: Finance / Audit / Audit Committee

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts/ Higgins

That it be recommended to Council to:

1. Receive and note the above report;
2. Await the detailed analysis of the report and core analysis from Aerodrome Design and reviewed, updated and enhanced financial forecasts as part of the ongoing reporting for Council consideration at the October or November 2015 meeting;
3. Continue to proactively participate in negotiations with the Department of Defence in relation to all matters, including the Lease document and Operating Deed for the facility; and
4. Keep all key stakeholders including tenants and other operators regularly informed of progress.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Deputy Mayor Higgins is still a fence sitter until some definite, positive information from reports is received. He would like to see the CEO follow up the ability for Council to operate the airport as commercial entity, and grow the airport, then he thinks we could make this work.
- Alderman Tapp-Coutts congratulated the staff. This has been a very long process. The CEO and Deputy CEO have worked very hard to try and get every bit of information in order that the Elected Members can make the right decision.
- Mayor Miller commented on the slow participation of the other parties. The RPT service will also be starting in October.
- Alderman Rose commented on the problem of the public liability we have to fund before the RBT can start, (\$44,000). The CEO noted that the \$200M is associated with the new lease, not the old one. We are currently going on a month to month arrangement, with the same conditions as the former lease, which does not attract the higher insurance.

14. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Alderman Tapp-Coutts asked if there has been further correspondence around fracking. Mayor Miller commented there has been nothing further. Mayor Miller asked the CEO to follow this up with the Department.
- Alderman Gazey advised that he had approached the local Minister recently and asked him to follow this up.

15. **PETITIONS**

Nil

16. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Nil

17. **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting was closed at 6.37pm



Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE