



MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 25 June 2024**

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

Councillor Trembath declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 June 2024 open at 12:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn - via video conference
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath (Chair)
- Councillor Amanda Kingdon
- Councillor Peter McDougall
- Councillor Kerrie Mott

OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill - Chief Executive Officer
- Amanda Haigh - Manager Governance and Risk
- Brett Kimpton - Manager Environment and Municipal
- Casey Anderson - Manager Corporate Administration
- Desiree Rodgers - Manager Finance
- Irene McCreevy - Manager People and Culture
- Rosemary Jennings - Manager Community Relations
- Matthew Arnott - Projects Portfolio Manager
- Emily Jones - Executive Assistant Governance (minute taker)

PUBLIC - 2

4.2 APOLOGIES

Mayor Elisabeth Clark and Councillor Maddy Bower apology for the meeting was noted.

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

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 28 MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-106

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 May 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 5|0

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



7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 4 JUNE 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-107

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 4 June 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 3|2

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

Discussion

Councillor Mott and Councillor Kingdon votes have been cast as 'AGAINST' due to being absent from the meeting on 4 June 2024.

7.3 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 12 JUNE 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-108

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 12 June 2024 as a true and accurate record, with the amendment of including the apology from Councillor Mott.

CARRIED 4|1

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

Discussion

Councillor Mott submitted an apology for the meeting however this is not listed. Minutes to be amended to reflect this.

Councillor Mott vote has been cast as 'AGAINST' due to being absent from the meeting on 12 June 2024.

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-109

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

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

In reference to '7.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 May 2024' it was raised regarding the



Mayor signing off on the minutes. Further discussion outlined that the process of having the minutes signed was in place when the old minute-taking system was utilised which ceased in September 2022. With the new system in place, there is no requirement for the Mayor's signature to confirm the minutes, nor is it a requirement under the Act. Both the Unconfirmed and Confirmed minutes are required to be uploaded on the website which shows changes to the minutes, if any. CEO will discuss further with the Mayor regarding this process of confirming minutes and present a report to the next Council meeting.

Outstanding action of meeting with Louise McCormick has been postponed due to attendance. Has been rescheduled for 2:30pm on Tuesday 23 July 2024.

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-110

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

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Mayor absent from meeting so the CEO addressed questions and discussion where able. If the CEO was unable to answer the questions relating to the activities, it was suggested that Elected Member's email the Mayor directly.

29 May - Meeting with CEOs from NTG: All NTG CEO's, except 3 - although they had representatives attend, came together in the Chambers where the Mayor and CEO did a presentation on the Strategic Plan and where identified pressure points and priorities are.

Request to have access to the Mayor's calendar to be able to view upcoming meetings and events. It was suggested that this request should be emailed to the Mayor directly then discussed with the group at a later time.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

11 PETITIONS

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

There were no Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 June 2024

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE GYRACC COMMITTEE BOARD

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-111

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

That Council appoint Ingrid Stonhill, Chief Executive Officer, as the Katherine Town Council representative on the Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre Board and advise Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre Management on this appointment accordingly.

CARRIED 4|1



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

Discussion

CEO is currently only on one Board through Council; Nitmiluk Park Board.

Appointment to the GYRACC Board is a historical appointment which was previously held by a Director . It is recommended that the appointment be someone who is able to make decisions within Council in a timely manner.

Question raised if an Elected Member can represent Council on the GYRACC Board. The Board currently has 4-6 community representatives and at present have only requested for one appointment by Council.

14.2 CROWN LAND LICENCE - PART LOT 2999 - VICTORIA HIGHWAY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-112

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

That Council authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to sign and execute a short-term Crown Land Licences over Part Lot 2999, Katherine NT 0850.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Future applications of the Crown Land Licence will need to be applied for by user groups directly. This process will be advertised to the user groups to allow sufficient time for the applications to be approved.

14.3 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL SIGNS CODE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-113

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

That Council approve the reviewed Katherine Town Council Signs Code that is restructured for ease of use and clarity of what signs can be erected in what zones and specifications.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Clarification on '12.a Vehicle or Trailer Signs'. Vehicle is allowed to be painted or contain advertising magnetic signs as long as the vehicle's primary use is for transportation. Signed Vehicles are prohibited to be parked up with the main purpose of advertisement.

Concerns and complaints about the content of an advertising sign should be directed to the Advertising Standards Board. CEO and Council staff have the task of ensuring compliance of signs and this can then be referred onto Council for decisions.

Long flags on poles often utilised by businesses are classified as a banner and will be categorised accordingly.

Suggestion to review the Signs Code at a later date as there are many non-compliant signs. This will be a large project due to consultation. Will revisit this idea later in the year.

Can only govern what is within Katherine Municipality.

14.4 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-114

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

That Council endorses the Finance Report for the Month of May 2024.

CARRIED 4|1

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

Discussion

Noted error with the formatting of tables - printing upside down in the agenda.

There has been two revised budget reviews conducted throughout the year which has resulted in the overall annual budget figure changing.

14.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-115

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

That Council receive and note the Community Services Department report for the Month of May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Good that the library team is back in the building as of 6 June 2024. There has been more commitment from the Building Owner in relation to mould prevention, including roof repairs. The effectiveness of the recently undertaken repairs and prevention of mould will be unknown until next wet season. There were approximately 1300 fiction books damaged through mould and the cost of this is still being tallied. Currently going through insurance to recover these costs.

Great engagement in the Wriggle and Rhyme program at the Hot Springs and hope to see this continue next dry season as well as more outdoor activities.

Noted that visitor numbers to the VIC have decreased yet the booking values are higher in comparison to this time last year. Some of this can be due to price increases, but it has also been shown that the visitors are willing to spend more.

Council has had stalls at the Katherine Show in previous years that have allowed for community engagement. This year's theme is building community trust and how the community has interacted with



Council. The main emphasis of the KTC stall will be to demonstrate the tools that allow the trust and confidence of the community to be built by showcasing projects such as 'Your Say' and 'Katherine Life'.

14.6 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-116

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

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure and Environment Department for May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Identified error on page 89 of the agenda - 'l' missing at the end of the word 'Level' in the subtitle 'Low Levee Pedestrian Bridge'.

Clarification that the pedestrian bridge at low level is still closed, however the road itself is open for vehicles. Engineers have inspected the pedestrian bridge and are awaiting the report of this. Once this report is received the repair work can commence. Currently investigating a different way of how to do the bridge during wet season - potentially removable handrails.

There is line-marking scheduled within the next two weeks for around school areas. This has been published on 'Your Say'. At the beginning of new financial year, areas will begin to be identified that are needing to have works done for line-marking.

Good to see Council getting hybrid fleet vehicles. It was mentioned that 80 kilometres is on the lower side before the vehicle requires charging, however the vehicle can still utilise fuel / diesel.

Question raised of if these vehicles have lithium batteries. Taken on notice.

14.7 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-117

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

That Council receive and note the report of the Environmental Services Department for May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Identified error on page 92 of the agenda - subtitle should be "RV Service Area" not "EV Service Area". Should also read 'RV' not 'EV' within the paragraph under subtitle.

Seating within RV Service Area has already been placed and was conducted through funding.

Concerns that there are 2.5 staff members working daily to pick up rubbish, now including Saturday and Sunday. Commendation to staff that are picking up rubbish. The town is looking clean and green which is

pleasing to see.

The air movement numbers recorded are inclusive of a few interstate visitors as well as any medical evacuations.

14.8 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORT - MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-118

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

That Council receive and note the Corporate Administration Report for the month of May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Identified error on page 94 of the agenda - under 'Officer Recommendation' and 'Purpose of Report' it should be the month of May not April.

Budget for streetlights comes under infrastructure. Current priority is solar lighting and continue working towards funding for solar lights. There are delays in the current solar lights that have been ordered.

There are personal monuments such as flags, etc. that have been identified within the cemetery that go against the policy of Council. Current delays in compliance of this policy include staff shortages and awaiting drone mapping.

Rate debtors being managed through approved Financial Hardship still attracts interest.

The 2 animal attacks were separate incidents on members of the public.

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES MAY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-119

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

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for May 2024.

CARRIED 5|0

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

Discussion

Activity from April of Cr Kingdon - LGANT Conference - has not been listed. To be discussed internally.



Centenary of Katherine Advisory Committee Meeting was attended by Cr McDougall. This meeting did not have a quorum hence why no report was tabled for this meeting.

Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting occurred last week with Deputy Mayor and Mayor in attendance. Minutes from this meeting will be provided at the next Meeting of Council.

17 LATE AGENDA

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Community member reached out regarding the Parks and Wildlife Shed near the Showgrounds. DIPL has ownership of this shed, not Council. Shed is no longer safe.

Street Party being held this Thursday 27 June, on First Street.

Twilight Lights down at the Hot Springs was well attended and organised by community members.

Tribute to Jim Forscutt, Bob Johnson and Anita Boyle. All OMC attendees stood for a moment of silence out of respect.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 1:20 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **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 28 MAY 2024

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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) (iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
------------------------	--

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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:	(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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:	(f) subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

20.2 CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 4 JUNE 2024

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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) (iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

20.3 CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 12 JUNE 2024

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or 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) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

20.4 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part or 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) (iii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING



The open meeting resumed at 1:29 pm.

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 June 2024 was declared closed at 1:29 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 23 July 2024.