



MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 26 November 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

Mayor Clark declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 26 November 2024 open at 12:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Nikola Faberova - Executive Assistant Governance (minute taker)
- Casey Anderson - Manager Corporate Administration
- Brett Kimpton - Manager Environment and Municipal
- Irene McCreevy - Manager People and Culture
- Desiree Rodgers - Manager Finance
- Kimberly Worrigan - Contracts Coordinator

STAFF -2

PUBLIC - 9

4.2 APOLOGIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

That Council accepts the apology of Councillor Kingdon.

Voting did not occur.

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE



Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES



7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 22 OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-239

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 October 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 6|0

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

7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 1 NOVEMBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-240

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 1 November 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 6|0

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

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-241

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

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Evidence does not support lowering the age of criminal responsibility. Council requested to take up the offer of Minister Hersey and request her to meet with Council.

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-242

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

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

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Police informed that due to high accident rates on highways there will be more police presence, targeting speeding and alcohol.

Meeting with Minister Hersey discussed the RPPP funding. Minister Hersey advised her election commitments were to contribute \$1 million to the Multi- purpose building and lights at the Showgrounds oval. Informed that the government will be reinstating truancy officers to enforce children's attendance at school .

Head Honcho is an ABC Radio program. Main topic was the Aquatic centre.

Meeting with the Deputy CEO of the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet - meet and greet meeting to provide an update and discuss the Council's projects.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING NOVEMBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-243

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

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Thank you Letter - Dep. of the Chief Minister and Cabinet - Mini Laksa Festival 2024 - ID202597 [**10.1.1** - 1 page]
 2. Letter - Minister Jo Hersey MLA - Response - Crime in Katherine - ID203164 [**10.1.2** - 2 pages]

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Council noted that the letter from the Mayor addressed to Minister Hersey emphasised the importance and urgency of the matter following the numerous violent acts that happened within a couple of weeks.



Request to contact the Minister regarding numerous issues and the new Reducing Crime package and to organise a meeting with the Elected Members was noted.

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING OCTOBER 2024 - NIL

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

There were no Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 26 November 2024

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 COMMUNITY GRANT VARIATION - KATHERINE NEPALI ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED REQUEST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-244

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

That Council approve the variation of the Katherine Town Council 2024/25 Minor Community Grant to the Katherine Nepali Association Incorporated for the Nepalese Dashain Festival 2024 of \$2,000 to purchase essential big utensils for Katherine Nepali Association Incorporated that can be used for future events organised by Katherine Nepali Association Incorporate.

CARRIED 6|0

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

AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Council acknowledge Katherine's multicultural community and support the diverse events happening in Katherine.

14.2 SHOWGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-245



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

1. That Council receive and note the report on the resignation of Anna Kerwin as the Katherine & District Show Society representative from the Showgrounds Advisory Committee.

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

The Council look forward to receiving a new Katherine and District Show Society nomination.

14.3 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-246

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

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

CARRIED 5|1

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

Discussion

Tied and untied funds explained. The Council appreciate this change made by the Finance team.

Mailchimp subscription is used to conduct surveys.

14.4 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-247

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

That Council receive and note the Community Relations Department report for the Month of October 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

The request for a cost overview of Dungeons and Dragons Club was taken on notice.

Children's Expo is a good event to promote what's available for kids in Katherine.



CEO and Manager Environment and Municipal left the meeting at 12:24 pm.

CEO returned to the meeting at 12:25 pm.

14.5 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-248

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

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

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Page 59. Incident Types Comparison graph - for the first time, we can see that the statistics are below last year's numbers. The Council recognised this great achievement.

14.6 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-249

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

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

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Confirmed no mosquito disease outbreaks detected. Mosquito spraying was conducted due to an increase in the numbers reported.

Question regarding any feedback from the business owners around the ANZ Lane was taken on notice. The trial is going well.

A decrease in dog registrations was noted. CEO explained that it might be a reflection of the increased cost of living. The Council is trying to address this problem due to increased dog attacks.

14.7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-250

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

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure Services Department for October 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

The CEO provided a brief update on the Aquatic centre project upon request. Costs will exceed what the Council have anticipated. The Council will decide the financial contribution towards this project during the next council meeting in December. At this stage, we know the project will be delayed two months due to a pool liner arriving from Italy. Everything that the Council promised will be delivered to the people of Katherine. Please visit Your Say Katherine on the Council's website for more up-to-date information.

The First Street upgrade improves public safety and logistics around the shopping centre. Stakeholder engagement relates to parties currently utilising this section of First Street. Once stakeholder engagement is finalised, a design will be developed and sent out for a public consultation.

The suggestion to include Repco and the Service station as stakeholders to be engaged was noted.

14.8 GRANT ACQUITTAL - KATHERINE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2023-24

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-251

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

That Council receive and note the acquittal for the Katherine Public Library 2023/24, confirming the delivery of core library services that meet local needs and ensure access for all NT residents, tourists, and visitors.

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

Congratulations to the library staff and the Manager Corporate Administration for developing the Report.

14.9 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS DECISIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-252

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

That Council receive and note the cost incurred from the Local Government Association of Northern Territory for Code of Conduct Complaint referral to LGANT by Elected Members.

CARRIED 6|0

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



AGAINST: Nil

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

15.1.1 Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee 21 October 2024 - Minutes - Unconfirmed

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-253

Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the minutes of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee held on 21 October 2024.

CARRIED 4|0

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

Discussion

Logo design competition. Community members are encouraged to submit their designs and participate. The competition closes on 27 January 2025.

The Your Say Katherine platform provides more information about the event. The public is asked to share and spread the word about this event.

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-254

Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for October 2024

CARRIED 6|0

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

Discussion

The Deputy Mayor provides an apology for not submitting his activities.

17 LATE AGENDA - NIL

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Thanked the Manager of Katherine Library for her hard work and dedication and wished her all the best in her personal and professional endeavours as she leaves Katherine with her family.



The 90th Anniversary of Katherine Hospital will be celebrated on 4 December 2024 at their grounds, starting at 10 am. More information is shared on the Council's Facebook page.

International Men's Day was a well-attended successful event organised by the Council. The presentation from Katherine Men's Shed was good.

The Mayor informed us about the upcoming events.

Sunday 1 December 2024 - Christmas tree lighting and a movie at the Town Square

Christmas lights competition - The residential competition judging will be on 11 and 12 December from 6:30 pm and the commercial competition judging will be on 13 and 14 December during the day.

International Day of People with Disability - Tuesday, 3 December at 10 am at the GYRACC.

The nomination deadline for Citizen of the Year was extended and closes on 8 December 2024.

Carols by Candlelight - gates open at 5:30 pm at Lindsay Street complex.

Condolences to the family of Jenny Henderson, long-term resident of Katherine, teacher, principal and member of the Katherine Film Society.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 12:50 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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 22 OCTOBER 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:	(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.

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.
------------------------	--

20.2 CONFIRMATION OF SPECIAL AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 1 NOVEMBER 2024 - MINUTES - UNCONFIRMED

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:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20.3 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

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 AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL SELF - ASSESSMENT EVALUATION REPORT

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:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20.5 SPECIAL EMIS 13 NOVEMBER 2024 - MEETING NOTES

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

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 1:11 pm.

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 26 November 2024 was declared closed at 1:12 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 10 December 2024.