



# MINUTES

## **Sportsground Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Held on Thursday 12 December 2024**

Civic Centre, Council Chambers  
24 Stuart Highway, Katherine NT 0850

## 1 ATTENDANCE

### 1.1 PRESENT

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn (Chair)
- Allen Storey
- Nicole Simmonds
- Sue Sinclair
- Karin Spain
- Karisa Morrison

#### OFFICERS

- Brett Kimpton - Manager of Environment and Municipal
- Ianna Lalim - Administration Officer (Minute taker)

### 1.2 APOLOGIES

Nat Dillon

## 2 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Sportsground Advisory Committee - 12 December 2024 was opened at 5:31 pm.  
The Chair gave the Acknowledgement of Country

## 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

Nil conflicts declared.

## 4 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 4.1 MINUTES OF THE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SpAC-2024-3**

**Moved:** Sue Sinclair; **Seconded:** Karisa Morrison

That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee confirm the minutes of the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee meeting held on 11 September 2024 as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED 6|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Karisa Morrison, Sue Sinclair, Allen Storey, Nicole Simmonds and Karin Spain  
AGAINST: Nil

## Discussion

The layout of the ovals is very open and Oval 2 can be accessed via the tennis or netball sides. It is therefore difficult for user groups to regulate entry, charge, or utilise bands for code of conduct. Noted that charges may come through use of canteen and club registrations.

No existing plans to fence the Sportsgrounds ovals.

There are plans to continue replacement of the Sportsgrounds boundary fence, except the pool area. The Cricket side of the boundary following from the Chambers Drive corner will likely be the next section.

Katherine Swimming Club queried whether the existing space for PA gate would be removed. Taken on notice.

During confirmation of the previous minutes Katherine Athletics Club acknowledged they did not have a formal representative in attendance at that meeting.

## 5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 6 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 6.1 DRAFT 2018-2027 MASTER PLAN - KATHERINE SHOWGROUND AND MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE (AGENDA 11 SEPTEMBER 2024)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the Katherine Town Council 2018-2027 Master Plan for the Katherine Sportsground – Draft V1. 2.
2. That the Committee review the draft Master Plan and provide feedback by the next meeting.

#### **AMENDMENT RESOLUTION SpAC-2024-5**

**Moved:** Karisa Morrison; **Seconded:** Nicole Simmonds

1. That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the Katherine Town Council 2018-2027 Master Plan for the Katherine Sportsground – Draft V1. 2.
2. That the Master Plan and feedback are tabled at the next meeting.

**CARRIED 6|0**

**FOR:** Deputy Mayor Coburn, Karisa Morrison, Sue Sinclair, Allen Storey, Nicole Simmonds and Karin Spain  
**AGAINST:** Nil

## Discussion

Katherine Athletics Club queried whether the plan has changed since 2018 as they were part of the initial discussions. Noted that many changes have occurred since then. The Committee preferred to review the Master Plan and collect feedback, and that the Master Plan (MP) be tabled at the next meeting.

Informed that Sportsgrounds user groups and clubs were consulted during development of the MP hence

their information is also itemised. Multiple Committee members stated they still want the same things from the MP and discussed financial restrictions in completing these goals.

Katherine Tennis Club are looking to replace their clubhouse.

Big Rivers BMX Club have previously been interested in a new clubhouse but this relies on funding.

Specific enquiries regarding facility hire taken on notice.

Aquatic Centre update requested, including whether diving blocks would be included and status on proposed changes to the splash park. Taken on notice.

A tender process for running of the Aquatic Centre will likely occur when it reopens next year.

## 6.2 REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE - SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SpAC-2024-6**

**Moved:** Nicole Simmonds; **Seconded:** Karin Spain

That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note their revised Terms of Reference, approved during the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 October 2024.

**CARRIED 6|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Karisa Morrison, Sue Sinclair, Allen Storey, Nicole Simmonds and Karin Spain  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Proxy details were provided by the Committee members earlier in the year however, until the last review of the Terms of Reference, these were not formal and carried no voting rights.

Noted that proxy conditions were previously not clear and that there is turn over of committee members and staff changes which affects continuity of information.

Katherine Rugby League Club suggested that perhaps default options for membership could be considered where titling could be to a club or group instead of a name.

## 6.3 GENERAL UPDATE - SPORTSGROUNDS - 3 DECEMBER 2024

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SpAC-2024-7**

**Moved:** Sue Sinclair; **Seconded:** Karisa Morrison

That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note this report containing updates regarding the Sportsgrounds since the Committee's last meeting 11 September 2024.

**CARRIED 6|0**

FOR: Deputy Mayor Coburn, Karisa Morrison, Sue Sinclair, Allen Storey, Nicole Simmonds and Karin Spain  
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Mosquitoes have been a significant issue this year. Fogging undertaken recently to address the high levels.

Proposals in the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (RPPP) application were discussed, including changes to the current YMCA building and possibility of adding another oval to the Sportsgrounds. Noted that the current YMCA building is owned by the Northern Territory Government even though land is owned by Council.

Changes via the RPPP may facilitate movement of AFL to the Sportsgrounds.

Addition of an indoor basketball court discussed. Big Rivers BMX recalled that this was in the plans for the original and current building however deviation from plan changed the result. The area has functioned as a skate rink.

At this stage a new building would rely on funding. Comparisons made to the Don Dale building and the three year period without its facilities while construction and demolition occurred. Query made about cost of changes to the Don Dale. Taken on notice.

## **7 COMMITTEE MEMBER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 SPORTSGROUNDS BOUNDARY FENCE**

Discussion

Timed overhead lights at the Sportsgrounds have been switched off due to minimal vandalism noted and the lights losing efficiency. Nature of previous vandalisms and examples of measures taken for their prevention were discussed. Noted that many stolen items have not been returned. Security and safety concerns raised.

Katherine Athletics Club requested that token costings be mailed out again. Taken on notice.

### **7.2 SPORTSGROUNDS MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY**

Discussion

Come & Try Sports Expo is approaching and usually held in February or March. Maintenance around the oval in preparation taken on notice.

Request for Pavilion office and canteen costings to be emailed out, taken on notice. Office availability to be investigated.

Alteration of Council facilities to include shelving queried, informed that such proposals should be sent in to Council for consideration.

Katherine Athletics Club informed there were past discussions with Council for movement of the long jump however quotes received were expensive. Current runway is old and almost cement with only a thin layer of tartan. Katherine Athletics Club would prefer to have the runway redone and a cage for throwing installed nearby the former long jump to reduce impact on other sports.

Noted much athletics talent currently but there are worries for burnout long term.

It is anticipated that school swimming can resume in Term 1 through alternative facilities.

It was asked that members notify Council if they see illegal campers.

Unpleasant smell and airlock in the Pavilion toilets. Committee members noted difficulty of cleaning the kitchen floor. Suggestion made to lacquer the floor as it has a rough finish but is still slippery when wet.

## **8 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The Sportsground Advisory Committee - 12 December 2024 was declared closed at 6:23 pm.

The next Sportsground Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12 March 2025.