



MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 15 MAY 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.50AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF ACTING CHAIR

ARLA2025-019 RESOLVED (Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That members nominated Hilda Bert as Acting Chair of the Local Authority Meeting.

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Hilda Bert

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /
NOMINATIONS**

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Member Hilda Bert, Member Jacob Yarma (Carol) and Member Garnet Djana.

Councillors:

Councillor Marlene Abbott and Councillor Abraham Poulson.

Via Teams: President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees:

Ken Satour – Director Council Services, Stuart Millar – Area Manager Council Services,
Benny Alick – Council Services Coordinator, Sai Katam – Officer Project Management
Office, Shae Millar – Governance Coordinator

Via Teams: June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Yarren Cavalier – Coordinator community safety and Remote Sports Program joined the
meeting at 11:30am

Guests:

Via Teams: Benjamine Humm – Acting Manager Housing and Property Services

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Joy Kunia

Absentees:

Chairperson Sarah Gallagher and Member Jonathan Doolan.

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / ASENTTEES

ARLA2025-020 RESOLVED(Garnet Djana/Abraham Poulson)

That members:

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) noted and accepted the apology from Joy Kunia; and
- c) noted the absences without notice of Chair Sarah Gallagher and Member Jonathon Doolan.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 NOMINATIONS FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the changes to the membership of the Local Authority.

Two vacancies on the Authority were created due to the dismissal of Sebastian Allen for being absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings and a resignation submitted by Sammy Butcher.

ARLA2025-021 RESOLVED(Garnet Djana/Abraham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that Napthali Scobie's Membership was terminated due to her absence without notice from two consecutive meetings;
- b) noted the vacancy on the Local Authority; and
- c) called for community nominations to open to fill the vacancy.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

ARLA2025-022 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Abraham Poulson)

That the Areyonga Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ARLA2025-023 RESOLVED(Abraham Poulson/Jacob Carol)

That the Minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority of 6 February 2025 were adopted by a resolution of Areyonga Local Authority.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATIONS OF GENERAL BUSINESS AND NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

ARLA2025-024 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

ARLA2025-025 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

ARLA2025-026 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 REMOTE HOUSING - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND TENANCY TEAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This section provides an opportunity for representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to provide the Local Authority with updates regarding Remote Housing programs, repairs, maintenance and tenancy.

ARLA2025-027 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the following updates from the Acting Manager of Housing and Property Services:
 - A team will be coming out to do a Condition Assessment Testing maintenance audit of all of the houses in Areyonga. This will be an audit of everything in each house including airconditioning, walls, doors and fences. This will give the Housing and Property Services team an idea of what works need to be completed. Benjamin Humm will be able to provide

- dates for these inspections within the next month;
 - Stickers have been placed in the power boxes with the contact information for residents to report any issues. This will be confirmed during the above mentioned audit;
 - Lot 74 air conditioner issue – parts have been ordered and have arrived and the contractor should be out tomorrow to finish the repairs;
 - Mr Humm requested feedback on the pest control that has been carried out in the community. Members stated that all the houses were treated, there were no issues and that everyone was happy with the results; and
- b) raised the following matters relating to housing repairs, maintenance and tenancy within the community:
- members raised the issue of ineffective air-conditioning within the houses. Mr Humm stated that his department is looking at transitioning from swampy air-conditioners to refrigerated air-conditioners. He stated that communities that are water stressed are being prioritised but that the need is being assessed on a case by case basis. Members stated that during summer they sleep outside and sit outside in the shade during the day as it is too hot inside their houses;
 - members raised that Lot 95 has a broken shower and a broken door. Mr Humm will investigate this;
 - members raised that they would prefer to keep the Token Power Meters as they are concerned about how the Smart Meters would work in their community as they do not have mobile reception in Areyonga – Benjamin will raise this with their power and water team;
 - members requested a date on when work will be commencing on Lot 52 [the house on the hill]. Benjamin is waiting for an update and will pass the information on when it is received.

8.2 NT TRACHOMA PROGRAM & INDIGENOUS EYE HEALTH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the presentation from the Public Health Unit and Indigenous Eye Health is to provide information on the Trachoma Program.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the presentation from the Trachoma Unit; and
- b) supports the unit's visits on educating community about Trachoma.

Minute Note: no representative attended the meeting.

8.3 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Every four years, people living in the Northern Territory elect representatives to serve on their Local Government Council. Local Government is the level of government most connected to your community, and the 2025 Local Government Elections will be your chance to stand up and represent your local area.

ARLA2025-028 RESOLVED(Garnet Djana/Jacob Carol)

That the Local Authority:

- a) urged all eligible residents to ensure they are enrolled to vote;
- b) encouraged community members to consider nominating as candidates; and
- c) noted that nominations open Friday 11 July to Thursday 31 July.

Minute Note: Yarren Cavalier joined the meeting at 11:30am.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 ACTION REGISTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides a running list of Local Authority action items as raised in previous meetings.

ARLA2025-029 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority noted the update on the grading schedule and closed this item.

9.2 REGIONAL PLANNING INCORPORATING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The MacDonnell Regional Council develops Community Infrastructure plans (CIP) for each community every five years. These plans are created in consultation with the Local Authority to record the community's priorities for the future development of their Infrastructure.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

ARLA2025-030 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Hilda Bert)

That the Local Authority:

- a) provided the following items to be added to the Community Infrastructure Plan:
 - Outdoor cinema
 - Market Garden
 - Drainage for the basketball court
 - Solar lights on the entrance road like the lights at the Ti-tree roadhouse;
 - A causeway on the entrance road to prevent the community from being cut off during flooding events;
- b) agreed to provide additional ideas for the CIP to the Council Services Coordinator before the next meeting; and
- c) agreed to finalise the list at the next meeting.

9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Northern Territory Government (NTG) and invested in projects and development to benefit and improve the community.

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds /shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAPF

has been provided for.

- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

At risk funds are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

ARLA2025-031 RESOLVED (Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$37,234.13 are funds *at risk* of being returned to NTG;
- b) noted the progress on their current projects as follows:
 - Project 2112 Water Bubbler near Bus Stop – PMO will follow up with plumbers on a date for the installation
 - Project 2114 Solar Light between MRC Office and Tjuwanpa – Civil team is installing and will be complete by the end of May
 - Project 2118 Fencing and Repairs at Playground – The PMO will work with the CSC to assess the materials needed to fix the recent damage to the fence.
 - Project 2119 Solar Light at Entrance – The CSC will collect the parts from Amoonguna.
 - Project 2260 Water Trailer – Delivery expected by the end of June; and
- c) noted that the unallocated funds are insufficient to create any new projects from the wishlist items.

9.4 DISCRETIONARY FUNDS REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Each financial year, MRC grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority.

The Local Authority decides how best to commit these funds that will benefit the Community and to improve Community development.

Discretionary Funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

ARLA2025-032 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that there are \$2,438.25 remaining discretionary funds;
- b) noted that \$1000.00 have been allocated to the support resources for activities with the children with no purchase order raised. – Governance will follow up with school;
- c) noted that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2025; and
- d) noted that \$1,438.25 has been allocated to the Healthy Community Event with those funds being held through to the next financial year in the case that the event is not held before the 30th June 2025. This will not affect the discretionary funds allocation for the 2025-26 financial year.

9.5 MRC POSITION VACANCIES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

ARLA2025-033 RESOLVED (Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority accepted the list of vacant positions available with

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Mt Liebig across the area of Local Government Council Services.

ARLA2025-034 RESOLVED(Marlene Abbott/Jacob Carol)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Services report.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety, Aged Care, Children's Services and Youth Services.

ARLA2025-035 RESOLVED(Abraham Poulson/Jacob Carol)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 March 2025 in the Areyonga Local Authority community.

ARLA2025-036 RESOLVED(Garnet Djana/Hilda Bert)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Expenditure Report as at 31 March 2025.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GERNERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the Authority have an opportunity to raise matters that they wish to discuss in General Council Business.

ARLA2025-037 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority discussed the following matters relating to General Council Business:

- a) members stated that children are throwing rocks at Council vehicles and requested that the vehicles be locked away and were advised that most vehicles are locked away at night and that this has not prevented them from being damaged by thrown rocks; and
- b) members requested that the Council provide firewood and were advised that MRC has a policy of not using Council vehicles to collect firewood.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback on matters that members may have regarding Non-Council Services.

ARLA2025-038 RESOLVED(Marlene Abbott/Jacob Carol)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters of Non-Council General Business.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 16 JULY, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:45 pm.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 15 May 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.