MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.31AM

2 WELCOME

The attendees were welcomed to the meeting by Chairperson Michael Ferguson and quorum was achieved.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	**3.1**
TITLE:	**Attendance, Apologies and Leave**

Local Authority Members

Member Michael Ferguson (Chairperson), Member Bridget Doolan, Member Susan Doolan and Member Darryl Doolan

Councillors

Councillor Patrick Allen and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Via Teams: Councillor Andrew Davis

Council Employees

Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety Services Libby Taylor, Area Manager Council Services Damien Ryan, Council Services Coordinator Bryan Forby, Governance Coordinator Shae Millar

Via Teams: Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg

Guests

Adele McCorkindale and Malavika Manoj from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development – Left the meeting after their presentation at 10:53am.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for the Authority's record, any apologies received from Members for this meeting.

FLA2026-33 **RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) noted the Member's attendance;
b) accepted apologies received from Member Rosemary Matasia, Member Thomas Stewart, Councillor Veronica Lynch, President Roxanne Kenny, CEO Belinda Urquhart and Shane Franey from Bill Yann's office; and
c) recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER:	**4.1**
TITLE:	**Local Authority Membership**
AUTHOR:	**Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report is to acknowledge the attendance and membership on the Authority, highlight current vacancies, and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act).

FLA2026-34 **RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Local Authority;

a) noted the current membership of the Authority;
b) called for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy; and
c) noted that revocations may occur if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	**5.1**
TITLE:	**MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report contains all of the details about the MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct Policy.

FLA2026-35 **RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Bridget Doolan)**

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.1**
TITLE:	**Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides the minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 10 June 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

***FLA2026-36* RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 10 June 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	**7.1**
TITLE:	**Acceptance of Agenda**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

***FLA2026-37* RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Michael Ferguson)**

That the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, were received for consideration at this meeting.

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	**8.1**
TITLE:	**Conflict of Interest**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Local Authority in relation to declaring personal or family financial interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

***FLA2026-38* RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:
a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
b) that members declared no conflicts of interest.

10 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

10.1 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

AUTHOR:	**Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government and its external Stakeholders. This may include:

- Roads outside of MRC's area
- Education
- Health
- Police
- Land Management

FLA2026-39 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) noted the updates on the previous items as follows:
- **The property contracts manager for Finke is reviewing the issues with swampy air-conditioners and will be actioning requests for inspections, repairs and replacements. Community members are reminded to please report any maintenance issues using the 1800 number. Stickers advertising the reporting number were distributed to members and left with the CSC to distribute to the community.**
- **That a pop-up store will be run during the next 2 day visit from the tenancy team to Finke.**
- **That the Gahn Heritage Trail Road and the road to Kulgura were both graded late in June**

b) closed all previous items; and

c) raised the following new items:
- **Councillor Patrick Allen at lot 19 reported that his stove needed repairs/replacement in person to some representatives from Housing and is still waiting for this to be actioned.**
- **Michael Furguson at lot 56 has also reported that his stove and air-conditioner are not working and is still waiting for this to be actioned.**

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	**11.1**
TITLE:	**Action Register**
AUTHOR:	**Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance**

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

FLA2026-40 **RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Susan Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted the update on the action item 'Water Trailer Maintenance' that one trailer is fully functional and that the second trailer is being repaired; and**
b) **closed this item.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**11.2**
TITLE:	**Local Authority Discretionary Funds**
AUTHOR:	**Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each financial year, MacDonnell Regional Council grants a discretionary fund allocation of $4,000.00 to the Local Authority. These funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

FLA2026-41 **RESOLVED (Susan Doolan/Bridget Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted the spending of their 2025/26 Discretionary funds;**
b) **received the discretionary funds of $4,000.00 for the current financial year;**
c) **discussed allocating these funds through a discretionary funds letter between meetings should the opportunity for a celebration of football results arise; and**
d) **acknowledged that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2027.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**11.3**
TITLE:	**Local Authority Project Register**
AUTHOR:	**June Crabb, Coordinator Governance**

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.

FLA2026-42 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted that there are no funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
b) **noted the available funds of $52,667.03 to spend on community projects;**
c) **closed completed project 2134 'Bench Seats, Concrete and Sporting Equipment' once all invoices have been received and returned the unused funds to unallocated; and**
d) **discussed the priorities of the wishlist items;**
e) **were advised that the Aboriginal Leadership Group agreed to fund new lights for the football oval and requested that the installation not interfere with the sports carnival on the long weekend in June next year; and**
f) **created a new project 'Large Grandstand with Shade'. This will be installed between the two current grandstands at the point indicated on the map during the meeting. $50,000.00 was allocated to this project. This will be installed when the lights are installed.**

12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	**12.1**
TITLE:	**Council Services LA Report**
AUTHOR:	**Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Finke across the area of Local Government Council Services.

FLA2026-43 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Darryl Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted and accepted the Council Services report;**
b) **were informed that the civil team will be focussing on maintenance at the cemetery in the coming weeks;**
c) **requested that Council Services hold a community meeting requesting permission to remove the small internal fences around individual graves; and**
d) **stated that the Council Services Coordinator Bryan Forby is doing a great job.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**12.2**
TITLE:	**Community Safety Report**
AUTHOR:	**Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Finke

FLA2026-44 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority

a) **noted and accepted the Community Safety report.**
b) **received an explanation about the role of Community Safety Services;**
c) **requested that the hours of operation be changed to 8pm until 2am and that the Community Safety team confine their patrols to within the community. These requests will be followed up as part of normal operations.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**12.3**
TITLE:	**Aged Care and Children's Services Report**
AUTHOR:	**Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides an update on the delivery of Aged Care and Children's Services

FLA2026-45 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Local Authority of Finke noted and accepted the Aged and Children's Services reports.

13 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	**13.1**
TITLE:	**General Council Business**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to give Members the opportunity to discuss General Council Business items.

FLA2026-46 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority were advised that the tipper truck and tipper trailer are back up plans to empty the rubbish bins should the rubbish truck break down and any further trailers would need to be purchased as part of a future Local Authority project.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 11:56 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 12 August 2026 and were confirmed on 18 November 2026.