MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.36AM and quorum was achieved.

2 WELCOME

Attendees were welcomed by Chairperson Michael Ferguson.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

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

Local Authority Members

Member Michael Ferguson (Chairperson), Member Bridget Doolan and Member Thomas Stewart.

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny and Councillor Patrick Allen.

Via Teams: Councillor Andrew Davis and Councillor Veronica Lynch.

Council Employees

Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety Libby Taylor, Area Manager Lewis Gittoes, Council Services Coordinator Bryan Forby, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests

Via Teams: Malavika Manoj – The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

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.

FLA2026-47 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)**

That the Local Authority:

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a) **noted the Member's attendance;**
b) **accepted apologies received from Member Rosemary Matasia, Member Susan Doolan and Member Darryl Doolan,; and**
c) **recorded the Member absence, without notice, for Councillor Matthew Palmer for this meeting.**

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER:	**4.1**
TITLE:	**Local Authority Membership**
AUTHOR:	**June Crabb, 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).

FLA2026-48 **RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)**

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.

FLA2026-49 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Michael Ferguson)**

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 12 August 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

FLA2026-50 **RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 12 August 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.

FLA2026-51 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)**

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.

FLA2026-52 **RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)**

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

10 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	**10.1**
TITLE:	**Non-Council Business**
AUTHOR:	**June Crabb, 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

Members are strongly encouraged to report individual housing issues to NT Housing directly by calling their toll-free line on 1800 104 076.
Local Authority discussions will focus on boarder concerns that affect the wider community.

FLA2026-53 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted the updates to the matters from previous meetings and closed these items;**
b) **accepted that individual housing matters should be raised via phone on 1800 104 076 or at HRG meetings where representatives from NT Housing are in attendance and are best placed to provide answers about these matters. All community members are welcome to attend these meetings; and**
c) **requested that housing consider using a metal mesh screen to enclose verandahs on future builds or renovations as seen in a community in Oodnadatta. Member Bridget Doolan will send a copy of a photo to the Governance team to pass on to Malavika. This mesh provides privacy as you cannot see inside from the outside, while still allowing people to see out. It helps reduce flies and dust.**
c) **requested that NPY Women's Council be invited to the next Finke Local Authority meeting to discuss what programs they are running for the Youth.**

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.

FLA2026-54 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Thomas Stewart)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted the update on the item 'Internal Cemetery Fences' that Council Services would prefer that the fences only be removed on the request of the**

families. They would only be removed if there is no risk to the grave or surrounding graves; and

b) closed this item.

ITEM NUMBER:	**11.2**
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.

FLA2026-55 **RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) noted that there are currently no funds at risk;

b) noted the progress on the current project 2135 'Large Grandstand with Shade' that the grandstand has arrived. It is ready to be installed. The Local Authority gave permission for the PMO to move ahead with installation prior to the lights being installed if the cost is reasonable; and

c) added spherical bollards outside the Community Safety office to the wish-list. Chairperson Michael Ferguson will take Ryan Rosenburg to inspect the site.

ITEM NUMBER:	**11.3**
TITLE:	**Local Authority Discretionary Funds**
AUTHOR:	**June Crabb, 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.

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FLA2026-56 **RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **allocated $2,000.00 to a Community Christmas BBQ. The CSC Bryan will be the main contact for ordering the food; and**
b) **acknowledged that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2027.**

12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	**12.1**
TITLE:	**Council Services_Finke LAR**
AUTHOR:	**Prisca Mufambisi, Senior Admin Officer**

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

FLA2026-57 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted and accepted the Council Services Report**
b) **requested that Council Services contact Bill Yan's office and request replacements for the 3 flags at the entrance of the community.**

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.

FLA2026-58 **RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted and accepted the Community Safety report;**
b) **was advised that foot patrol occurs between 6 and 7pm.**
c) **requested that Monday, Wednesday and Friday be the days when the shifts are run at the later time of 8pm-2am with Tuesdays and Thursdays operating normal hours;**
d) **requested that the team ensure that they wear their uniforms and were advised that this has been discussed and that replacement uniforms will be provided as necessary; and**
e) **these matters have and 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

FLA2026-59 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Veronica Lynch)

That the Local Authority of Finke:

a) **noted and accepted the Aged and Children's Services reports;**
b) **was introduced to Coordinator Aged and Disability Services Syed Gillani;**
c) **requested more basic and kid friendly food for the school lunches;**
d) **requested ham or fritz sandwiches rather than bacon;**
e) **was advised that a survey is being organised to find out what the children would like to eat; and**
f) **this will be followed up as part of normal operations.**

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.

***FLA2026-60* RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Bridget Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

a) **noted that people are wishing to clean up their yards and were advised that there is a trailer or skip bin available to be parked outside peoples yards for this purpose;**
b) **was advised that MRC is working toward using a scanning system for tracking mail; and**
c) **was advised that there are customer support officer positions available and that these positions would be responsible for cleaning the office.**

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2027

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:14 pm.

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