



MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE  
COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2024 AT 10:30 AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.39AM and held via Teams

**2 WELCOME**

2.1 Welcome to Country – Michael Ferguson

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

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Rosemary Matasia, Chairperson Michael Ferguson

Provisional Members

Bridget Doolan, Susan Doolan and Thomas Stewart

Councillors:

Cr Patrick Allen

From Amoonguna office - Cr Andrew Davis, and from Head Office Cr Aloyischois Hayes

Council Employees:

From Finke: John Flemming

From Head office: June Crabb, Keith Hassett, Ken Satour and Liz Scott attended the meeting from 11:05

From Imanpa: Damien Ryan

Guests:

Jessica Scrutton from the department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

President Roxanne Kenny and Cr Lisa Sharman

Absentees:

NIL

### **3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES**

**FLA2024-052 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson]**

**That the Finke Local Authority:**

- a) noted the attendance;**
- b) accepted Bridget Doolan, Susan Doolan and Thomas Stewart as provisional members; and**
- c) accepted the apologies from Cr Lisa Sharman and President Roxanne Kenny.**

### **3.3 Resignations**

NIL

### **3.4 Terminations**

NIL

### **3.5 Nominations**

#### **3.5.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY NOMINATIONS**

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This paper highlights the changes to the Local Authority Membership and notes that due to a resignation being received from Mr Geoffrey Stuart, a vacancy is currently available on the Authority.

**FLA2024-053 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the current membership on the Authority;**
- b) noted that there are two remaining vacancies on the Local Authority; and**
- c) noted the nominations received from Jolene Doolan, Ronald Morton, Justine Anderson, Nahasson Doolan and Warrie Doolan to be considered at a future meeting.**

## **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**FLA2024-054 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

**That the Finke Local Authority note the Council Code of Conduct.**

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**FLA2024-055 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Finke Local Authority accepted the unconfirmed minutes of the Provisional meeting held 22 October 2024 as a true and correct records of the proceeding.**

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

### **6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED**

**FLA2024-056 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

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

### **6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**FLA2024-057 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

Noted that the members provided notification of the following matters to be raised in General Council Business:

- a) new rubbish bins requested as old ones are deteriorating;
- b) broken cars in yards.

Minute note: these matters were discussed at this point and noted as operational.

### **6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**FLA2024-058 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

Noted that the members provided notification of the following matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business:

- a) housing –7 air conditioners in new houses are not working. This is causing health issues and requests for repairs are not being attended to; and
  - CSC, John Flemming, to email Jessica Strutton with lot numbers. She will follow up with Housing.
- b) housing - rental rates for elderly tenants.

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**FLA2024-059 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

That the Finke Local Authority noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

**FLA2024-060 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

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

## **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

NIL

## **9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet (DCM&C) and invested in projects 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 LAMP has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

#### **FLA2024-061 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Aloyisio Hayes)**

##### **That the Finke Local Authority:**

- a) noted the following updates on the progress of Local Authority Projects:
  - 2133 – that the cement slab for the Wash down bay is expected to be laid soon;
  - 2137 - that Shade Structures have been installed at Lot 1, across from the shop and Lot 8 – over the Playground;
- b) that there is \$1,700.00 of Local Authority Project Funds remaining; and
- c) that MRC has received funding for a 'Green Space' and will undertake community consultations regarding what this may look like.

### **9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

#### **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.

#### **FLA2024-062 RESOLVED (Rosemary Matasia/Patrick Allen)**

##### **That the Finke Local Authority:**

- a) accepts the 2024/2025 funding allocation;
- b) notes that forfeited funds from the previous financial year of \$2,117.26 were reinstated;

- c) acknowledges that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2025 or the funds will be returned;
- d) noted that purchase orders have been raised for the barbeque and that the barbeque has been postponed to the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.
- e) allocated an additional \$300.00 to the bbq for the Tidiest Yard Competition; and
- f) was advised that a discretionary funds letter can be used to allocate money between meetings.

### **9.3 PEOPLE & CAPABILITIES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Authority members insight into MacDonnell Regional Council staffing vacancies to help generate local community engagement and direct involvement in supporting Council's strategic goals of Developing Communities and being a Supportive Organisation.

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.

#### **FLA2024-063 RESOLVED (Rosemary Matasia/Patrick Allen)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Peoples and Capabilities report for the Community of Finke.

## **10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES LA REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### **FLA2024-064 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Rosemary Matasia)**

That the Finke 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 Aged and Disability, Community Safety, Children's and Youth Services.

#### **FLA2024-065 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Aloyiscois Hayes)**

That the Local Authority;

- a) notes and accepts the Community Services Report;
- b) expressed concern about the lack of fencing around the grounds of the Community Safety office.
  - The CSC will take photos and make a drawing of the area and will meet with Michael Ferguson and Liz Scott, Manager of Community Safety, to discuss the concerns. Liz will then present the results at the next Finke Local Authority meeting;

- c) raised concerns that the school lunches provided by Aged Care are not appealing to the children and that they are not being eaten, suggesting the students be surveyed about their food requirements and preferences.
  - Liz Scott will notify the Manager of Aged Care.

## **11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

### **11.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY FINANCE REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 October 2024 in the Finke Local Authority community.

#### **FLA2024-066 RESOLVED (Aloyiscois Hayes/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Expenditure report as at 31 October 2024.

## **12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2**

### **12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Under item 6.2, Members of the Authority have an opportunity to table items that they wish to discuss at General Council Business.

#### **FLA2024-067 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Finke Local Authority that the matters raised had been previously discussed.

## **13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3**

### **13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development provides any necessary updates in regard to Northern Territory Government Services.

At the beginning of the meeting, under item 6.3, members were given the opportunity to provide notification of matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business.

#### **FLA2024-068 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

That the Finke Local Authority discussed the matters raised at item 6.3 as follows:

- a) members noted that the air-conditioner issues were discussed at that time;
  - The CSC will provide details and Jessica Scrutton will follow up;
- b) members expressed concern that elderly people were paying high rents with little money left over for food;
  - Members will provide the names and lot numbers of the elderly people concerned to the CSC who will email them to Jessica Scrutton so that she can follow up.
- c) members noted that Jessica Scrutton provided information that the road to Kulgera was currently being graded, as requested by the Local Authority on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October.

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH, 2025**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 1:28 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 4 December 2024 and were confirmed on 12 February 2025.