



MINUTES OF THE PAPUNYA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
PAPUNYA COUNCIL OFFICE AND VIA TEAMS ON
THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open as a provisional meeting at 10.56AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF THE CHAIR

PLA2025-019 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Jason Minor)

That the Local Authority nominated Dalton McDonald as Acting Chair for this Meeting.

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Dalton McDonald

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Via Teams from Papunya: Member Justine Stockman

Via Teams from Alice Springs: Member Graham Poulson and Member Sarah Stockman
Joined at 12:07pm.

Councillors:

Via Teams from Alice Springs: Deputy President Dalton McDonald and Councillor Tommy Conway.

Via Teams from Mount Liebig: Councillor Jason Minor.

Council Employees:

Via Teams from Alice Springs: Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Mark O'Byran - Area Manager
Council Services, James Walsh – Manager Project Management Office, and Shae
Thompson – Coordinator Governance.

Via Teams from Papunya: Rhiannon Collie – Council Services Coordinator Papunya

Via teams external: Ruth Tahare – Project Officer Project Management Office

Guests:

Via Teams external: Jenifer Newman and Fred Masters – Department of Social Services.

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

President Roxanne Kenny and Member Jarrard Anderson

Absentees:

Member Terence Abbott, Member Casey (Sammy) Pearce and Chairperson Karen McDonald.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 NOMINATIONS TO 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.

PLA2025-020 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Justine Stockman)

That the provisional meeting of the Papunya Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the vacancy on the Local Authority; and**
- b) called for community nominations to remain open until the vacancy is filled.**

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

PLA2025-021 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Jason Minor)

That the provisional meeting of the Papunya Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted the Council Code of Conduct.

Minute Note: Member Sarah Stockman joined the meeting at 12:07pm and quorum was achieved.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

PLA2025-022 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Sarah Stockman)

That the Minutes of the Papunya Local Authority meeting of 5th February 2025 were adopted by a resolution of the Papunya Local Authority.

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

PLA2025-023 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Sarah Stockman)

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

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

PLA2025-024 RESOLVED (Graham Poulson/Jason Minor)

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

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

PLA2025-025 RESOLVED (Graham Poulson/Jason Minor)

That the Papunya Local Authority did not declare any 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.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the updates from Remote Housing representatives; and
- b) raises matters relating to housing repairs, maintenance and tenancy within the community.

Minute Note: Representatives did not attend the meeting.

8.2 THE DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY PROJECT - DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the presentation from the Department of Social Services is to provide information about the Digital Connectivity Project

PLA2025-026 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Sarah Stockman)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the presentation from the Department of Social Services;
- b) supported the installation of two units that will free Wi-Fi System in Papunya;
- c) noted that the wi-fi can be turned off at times nominated by the community;
- d) noted that there are content blockers so that people cannot access gambling sites and pornography;
- e) suggested the basketball court and the store as possible sites for the wi-fi systems; and
- f) noted that two Kiosks could be installed that can display content videos and suggested that these should be installed inside buildings to prevent damage.

8.3 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: Representatives did not attend the meeting due to technical issues.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 ACTION REGISTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

PLA2025-027 RESOLVED (Justine Stockman/Jason Minor)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the progress on the action items as follows:

- a) noted that the speed bumps have been ordered and kept this item open;
- b) noted that the exclusion signs are on order and will be installed by the civil team and kept this item open;
- c) noted that the CEO has followed up on the aged care item as an operational matter and closed this item;
- d) noted that the CEO has raised the reduced visibility on the corner of Kintore Road with DIPL and closed this item;
- e) noted that CDP has begun work on resurfacing the foot bridge across the creek and closed this item; and
- f) noted that the CEO requested that the CEO of CLC attend the next LA meeting and that it was agreed that he would instead attend the next Council meeting where Councillors will be able to raise any issues from their communities and report back to the Local Authorities and closed this item.

9.2 REGIONAL PLANNING INCORPORATING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Regional Plan is developed every year after consultation with MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) communities and directs how we will deliver our vision, mission and goals. The Regional Plan guides MRC staff to deliver on our mission to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the 2025-26 Regional Plan in the consideration of the development of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

PLA2025-028 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Tommy Conway)

That the Local Authority discussed and accepted the following priorities that will be added to the regional plan and the community infrastructure plan for Papunya:

- **softball lights;**
- **more trees;**
- **4 playgrounds;**
- **a gathering Space;**
- **BMX track;**
- **replace old basketball court with fake grass for soccer; and**
- **tourist information centre near the police station.**

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.

PLA2025-029 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Tommy Conway)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **noted that \$113,870.13 are funds *at risk* of being returned to NTG;**
- b) **considered allocating 10% of its annual budget toward projects identified by the Youth Board;**
- c) **noted the recommendations of the Youth Board and were advised of the following:**
 - **the Sports Equipment, the Playstation 5 and the Equipment for the Ladies Night should all be covered through Youth Program funding.**
 - **the splash pad project that may be installed near or at the small football oval area will incorporate solar lights so at this stage this would not need**

to be funded by the Local Authority;

- d) noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management Office as follows:
- 2192 Mature Established Trees - waiting for a response from Greg Drew from Ngurratjuta.
 - 2195 Healthy Communities Event – the PMO is working to coordinate multiple stakeholders in order to determine the timing of the event.
 - 2198 Trailer Bin – expected delivery time to Alice Springs is two months.
 - 2501 Windows and Seats for Church Restoration – moved this project to the wishlist and moved remaining funds of \$29,147.09 to project 2508 Sunday School.
 - 2505 Yarning Circle – Benches have arrived, the civil team has cleared the area and will install the benches and firepits once the weather improves.
 - 2508 Sunday School - Allocated funding from project 2501 so that this project can move forward;
- e) closed project 2506 Garden Shed with Tools for Cemetery and returned unspent funds to unallocated; and
- f) added the following items to the wishlist:
- A playground on the East side.
 - Solar lights near the old recording studio.
 - Project 2501 Windows and Seats for Church Restoration.

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.

PLA2025-030 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Justine Stockman)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$580.07 have been spent on supporting youth attending Cultural Business over three occasions;
- b) noted that the unspent funds are equal to \$33.54; and
- c) noted that these funds will be held for use in the next financial year.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 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.

PLA2025-031 RESOLVED (Graham Poulson/Tommy Conway)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Papunya; and
- b) noted that job posters will be displayed in multiple locations within the community.

10.2 COUNCIL SERVICES LA REPORT - PAPUNYA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Papunya.

PLA2025-032 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Sarah Stockman)

That the Local Authority of Papunya:

- a) noted and accepted the Council Services report; and
- b) advised that there will be a sports weekend on the Kings birthday weekend.

10.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Services in Papunya.

PLA2025-033 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Sarah Stockman)

That the 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 28 February 2025 in the Papunya Local Authority community.

PLA2025-034 RESOLVED (Graham Poulson/Jason Minor)

That the Local Authority

- a) noted and accepted the Income and Expenditure report as at 28th February 2025; and
- b) requested that the CEO send an update on the timeline of the solar upgrades at Green Valley out-station to Sarah Stockman.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

PLA2025-035 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Graham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) raised and discussed that people are still driving on tracks within the community rather than using roads and that bollards are being installed near the small football oval to discourage this; and

- b) requested that the CEO follow up on the signs redirecting heavy traffic through the community.

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.

PLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Graham Poulson)

That the Local Authority raised and discussed matters of General Non-Council Business as follows:

- a) requested that a representative from the school be invited to provide the Local Authority with updates on how the school is running; and
- b) requested that police attend a future meeting to update members on matters within the community and were advised that the police have a standing invitation to attend Local Authority meetings.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 10 JULY, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:34 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Papunya Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 3 April 2025 and were confirmed Thursday, 24th July 2025