



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 2025 AT 9:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENED AT 9:37AM

An audio recording of this meeting was made for minute taking purposes as authorised by MC09-CP Audio Recording of Meetings Policy. Councillors may request, via majority vote if required, that no audio recording be made where issues of legitimate cultural or spiritual significance are to be discussed.

2 WELCOME – PRESIDENT ROXANNE KENNY

3 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka, Councillor Lynn Ward, Councillor Peter Wilson and Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Garrard Anderson (arrived at 10:15am)

Staff

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Sheree Sherry – Chief Financial Officer, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Children & Aged Care, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People & Capabilities, Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Stuart Millar – Area Manager Council Services, Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinator and June Crabb – (Minute Taker)

Guests

Nil

Apologies

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services and Barbara Newland – Governance Manager

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance and Apologies

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2025-184 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;
- b) tables apologies received for this meeting; and
- c) records no Elected Members absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Requests for Future Leave of Absence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council's record, requests for leave of absence received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

OCM2025-185 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Peter Wilson)

That Council:

- a) receives the request for future leave of absence for this Council meeting from Councillor Dalton McDonald and notes that no specific dates were provided; and
- b) receives notification of executive staff going on leave and staff acting in their absence as follows:
 - Ainsley Roscrow on leave for three days to attend a funeral.

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.

OCM2025-186 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes 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 Ordinary Council Meeting held 26 September 2025 to be approved by Council.

OCM2025-187 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 26 September 2025 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 Council for this Council Meeting.

OCM2025-188 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lynn Ward)

That the agenda papers for this Council meeting as presented, be 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 interests that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

OCM2025-189 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) elected Members did not declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.**

Minute note: Cr Davis reported that Council staff have been entering the yards of their own homes and the homes of their family to collect their rubbish bins. The CEO reiterated that staff must not enter any yard for bin collection and that all bins are to be placed outside the

gate for collection. The Area Manager will follow up with their teams to ensure that they understand the rules.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council reviews the minutes of each Local Authority Meeting or Provisional Meetings at the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The draft (unconfirmed) minutes attached to this report relate to Local Authority meetings that have occurred since or could not be prepared prior to the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Local Authority meetings covered in this report are for the period between 5 September to 19 October 2025 and include:

- Amoonguna - 2 October 2025
- Hermannsburg - 7 October 2025
- Kintore - 8 October 2025
- Papunya - 9 October 2025
- Haasts Bluff – 14 October 2025
- Areyonga – 15 October 2025

OCM2025-190 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Abraham Poulson)

That Council:

- a) approves the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Provisional meeting held in Amoonguna;
- b) approves the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Hermannsburg, Kintore, Papunya, Haasts Bluff and Areyonga;
- c) endorses the allocations to the new projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:
 - Amoonguna - allocates \$17,000.00 towards a New Playground;
 - Hermannsburg – allocates \$6,000.00 to Maintenance and Registration for the Bin trailers;
 - Papunya – allocates \$3,000.00 towards Additional Resources to the Community Development Plan; and
- d) supports the decision of the CEO to return \$2,780.59 to the Titjikala Local Authority Discretionary funds.

Minute note: The meeting adjourned for a short break at 10:00 and resumed at 10:15am

Minute note: Cr Anderson joined the meeting at 10:15am.

ITEM NUMBER:	12.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Nominations
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under section 77 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Council is required to consider the nominations submitted for Local Authority membership and confirm appointments by resolution.

OCM2025-191 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council considers the nominations received and appoints:

- a) Tutama Jack to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority; and
- b) notes and discusses the nominations submitted by Lynda Lechleitner and Shannon Palmer to the Papunya Local Authority and resolves that:
 - their nominations be redirected to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority;
 - the CEO to consult with the members of Haasts Bluff regarding these potential nominations; and
 - the Elected Members of the Luritja Pintubi ward informs the nominees and confirm whether they wish to be appointed to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority.

Minute note: Members were informed that appointing the nominees to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority would help improve quorum numbers, given the ongoing difficulty in meeting quorum requirements.

ITEM NUMBER:	12.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Resignations and Terminations
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As recorded in the minutes of the Local Authority meetings, the recommendations put forth to Council is to accept any resignations received and to note the memberships dismissed from the Local Authorities.

OCM2025-192 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) notes that the following memberships have been revoked due to their absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings:
 - Theresa Alice from the Amoonguna Local Authority
 - Jessica Moora and Derek Egan from the Haasts Bluff Local Authority; and
- b) notes that there were no resignations received for the period of this report.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	Correspondence Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on correspondence received and sent by the Council President and CEO in the period since the September 2025 Council meeting.

OCM2025-193 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Lynn Ward)

That Council:

- a) notes the correspondence received and sent;
- b) notes advice received via email that the ICAC training scheduled to be provided on the 4th November 2025 has been deferred to 2026; and
- c) notes that the letter sent to Minister McCarthy has been acknowledged and future meetings are to be arranged to discuss the funding outcome.

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	14.1
TITLE:	Council President's Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the meetings attended by President Roxanne Kenny since the June 2025 meeting of Council.

OCM2025-194 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Patrick Allen)

That Council receives the President's report for the period 5th June to 17th October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.2
TITLE:	CEO Report
AUTHOR:	Belinda Urquhart, Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the events and meetings attended by CEO Belinda Urquhart during the reporting period.

OCM2025-195 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Veronica Lynch)

That Council receives the CEO report for the period July to October 2025.

Minute note: Due to operational matters, the order for the Officers Reports for this meeting was altered.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	15.1
TITLE:	Aged and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR:	Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Childcare Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of Aged and Children's Services for September 2025, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2025-196 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council

- a) notes and accepts the Aged and Children's Services report; expressing disappointment with the lack of action from the Federal Government towards adequate and appropriate childcare facilities for their children; and
- b) requested that the CEO draft a letter addressed to the Federal Minister and the relevant State Ministers advocating for the prioritisation of constructing fit for purpose buildings for all childcare facilities across the region, with a particular emphasis placed on the urgent need for this infrastructure in Docker River.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.2
TITLE:	Council Services OCM Report
AUTHOR:	Keith Hassett, Director Council Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the activities of the Council Services Directorate in the areas of Local Government Service Delivery, Housing and Facilities Management, Contractual Commercial Services and Projects.

OCM2025-197 RESOLVED (Peter Wilson/Dalton McDonald)

That Council notes and accepts the Council Services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.3
TITLE:	Youth and Community Safety Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of Youth and Community Safety services for September 2025, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2025-198 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

- a) notes and accepts the attached Youth and Community Safety Services report;
- b) notes that Youth Services programs are funded through NIAA; and
- c) to consider implementing more creative and arts-focused programs for Youth.

Minute note: Members were reminded the MacDonnell Regional Council Community Safety Staff are not enforcement officers and therefore not permitted to intervene in incidents of community unrest. MRC will continue to advocate to the Northern Territory Police regarding implementing safety measures to ensure appropriate responses are provided.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.4
TITLE:	Youth Board Meetings - Council Feedback
AUTHOR:	Kaisa Suumann, Coordinator Youth Boards

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to provide feedback to Council from the meetings of MacDonnell Regional Council's Youth Boards, including matters discussed and to request the support of Council for the recommendations made.

OCM2025-199 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) notes the Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback report;
- b) considers the support Council will approve in relation to the recommendations made; and
- c) will not move forward with the recommendations at this time.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.5
TITLE:	People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights current and completed HR initiatives or activities affecting Council and our number one resource – the people!

OCM2025-200 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.6
TITLE:	Finance Report as at 30 September 2025
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 30 September 2025

OCM2025-201 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lynn Ward)

That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 30 September 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.7
TITLE:	Presentation of Annual Report 2024-25 including Audited Financial Statements
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the MacDonnell Regional Council Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statements, for 2024-25 for Council's approval.

OCM2025-202 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

- 1. approves the MRC Annual Report 2024-25;**
- 2. approves the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025;**
- 3. approves the forwarding of the 2024-25 Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statements, to the Minister for Local Government.**

ITEM NUMBER:	15.8
TITLE:	Audit Committee Minutes
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Audit Committee met on 3rd October 2025 at Bagot Street. The minutes of this meeting are attached for the Council's attention; these are still unconfirmed being due to be confirmed by the Committee at its next meeting.

OCM2025-203 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council notes and receives the minutes of the Audit Committee of 3rd October

2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.9
TITLE:	Governance Team Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to update Council on the activities of the Governance and Strategy Team.

OCM2025-204 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Veronica Lynch)

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.10
TITLE:	Council Meeting Planner 2026
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2026 Council Meeting Planner proposes suitable meeting dates for all meetings of Ordinary Council, Special Council, Finance and Risk and Audit committee meetings as well as the Local Authority meetings.

OCM2025-205 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

- a) **considers the proposed dates contained in the 2026 Meeting Planner**
- b) **notes the outdoor Local Authority meetings scheduled between May - July 2026 and agreed that the Governance team may opt to have indoor meetings if required, based on prevailing or adverse weather conditions;**
- c) **notes the date set by the CEO for NAIDOC Day to be observed on the 6 July 2026;**
- d) **discusses locations to hold the Special Council meeting and the Ordinary Council meetings and suggested the following:**
 - **Ross River for the February 2026 meeting; and**
 - **Kings Canyon for the Special Council meeting in May;**

Minute note: As Cultural Business through the Kings Canyon area may occur in February 2026, Council has elected not to proceed with holding the February Council Meeting at Kings Canyon Resort, and alternative options for that meeting will therefore be investigated. These options will be available for discussion at the December Council meeting.

16 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	16.1
TITLE:	Notification of General Business Items

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to give Elected Members the opportunity to table items they wish to be debated by Council.

OCM2025-206 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That the Chairperson invites Elected Members to raise items of concern they wish to be discussed in this meeting as follows:

- a) approves the appointment of Keith Hassett – Director Council Services as Council’s Representative on the Northern Territory Planning Commission Committee;
- b) notes and accepts the Voting Schedule for the Rodinga Ward;
- c) notes the update regarding the Youth Diversion program being undertaken in Santa Teresa;
- d) notes that President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka and the CEO and ELT will be attending the LGANT meeting in Darwin on the 18th and 19th November;
- e) advises that Governance critically review information provided by Guest Speakers proposing to present at Local Authority meetings to ensure it meets an acceptable and appropriate standard and is not offensive or culturally insensitive;
- f) notes the information to create a historical mural along the fence line at the entrance to Hermannsburg community, acknowledging that this matter had previously been discussed at a Local Authority meeting and included on the Community Infrastructure Priority list. Members also noted that Local Authority Project funds could be allocated to this initiative;
- g) thanks Cr Lynch for her attendance in providing Cultural Awareness training; and
- h) notes the expression of interest in providing Cultural Awareness training at future inductions from President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka and Councillor Lynn Ward.

17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	17.1
TITLE:	Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential matters.

OCM2025-207 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)

That Council approves the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are about to be discussed.

Minute note: The open section of the meeting was closed at 12:19pm

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

19 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting is to be opened to the public following the consideration of confidential matters. Resolutions will be transferred to the open meeting upon the determination of Council.

OCM2025-210 RESOLVED(Maryanne Malbunka/Dalton McDonald)

That Council discloses motions from the confidential section of this meeting in the open section of the meeting and opens the meeting to the public. The motions to be disclosed are as follows:

OCM2025-208 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Dalton McDonald)

That Council confirms the Minutes of the previous Confidential Council Meeting held on the 26th September 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

OCM2025-209 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

- a) **notes and receives the confidential minutes of the Audit Committee of 3rd October 2025; and**
- b) **accepts the recommendation that the Financial Statements are suitable for signing by the CEO and for inclusion in the 2024-2025 Annual Report for presentation to the Minister.**

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 19 December 2025 – 9:30 AM

21 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:25 pm.

This page and the preceding 11 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 31 October 2025 and are unconfirmed.

President