



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON FRIDAY 17 APRIL 2026 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED AT 9.34am

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

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 Matthew Palmer.

Staff

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children's Services, Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy.

Guests

Representatives of LGANT:

- Cr Peter Pangquee, President
- Cr Allison Bitar, Vice President
- Ms Mary Watson, Chief Executive Officer

Apologies

Cr Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye

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.

OCM2026-36 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Matthew Palmer)

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;**
- b) accepts the apology received from Cr Lynch for this meeting; and**
- c) records that there were no Elected Member 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.

OCM2026-37 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lynn Ward)

That Council:

- a) notes that there were no requests for future leave of absence received for this Council meeting; and**
- b) notes that there are no executive staff going on leave and staff acting in their absence.**

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.

OCM2026-38 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

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 20 March 2026 to be approved by Council.

OCM2026-39 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 March 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 Council for this Council Meeting.

OCM2026-40 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Andrew Davis)

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.

OCM2026-41 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Matthew Palmer)

That Council:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy;**
- b) notes that no elected Members declared any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda; and**
- c) notes the conflict of interest declared by the CEO in relation to Confidential Item 18.4.**

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Santa Teresa - Menzies School of Health Research
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Representatives from the Menzies School of Health Research would like to attend the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting on the 13th May to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study.

They would also like to introduce the THRIVE study and are seeking endorsement from the Local Authority to visit Santa Teresa to offer the study on a voluntary basis to eligible community members.

OCM2026-42 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council approves (does not approve) the request by the Menzies School of Health Research to attend the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting on the 13 May 2026 to provide an update on the ORVAC study, introduce the THRIVE study and seek approval to visit Santa Teresa to invite eligible families to participate in the THRIVE study.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Presentation by LGANT
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Representatives from LGANT are visiting MRC and will be attending the meeting to provide an overview of LGANT member benefits and services.

OCM2026-43 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Abraham Poulson)

That Council notes the LGANT presentation.

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 the 9th February to the 31st March and include Finke (4 March, Kintore (12 March), Titjikala (17 March), Hermannsburg (25 March), Santa Teresa (26 March) and Areyonga (31 March).

OCM2026-44 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) **confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Finke, Kintore, Titjikala, Hermannsburg, Santa Teresa, Areyonga; and**
- b) **accepts the Authorities allocations towards the new project proposals as follows:**
 - **\$20,000.00 towards demolishing the building at the Basketball Court in Kintore;**
 - **\$10,000.00 towards 2 x Pedestrian Crossings in Santa Teresa**
 - **\$15,000.00 towards a Ride on mower for Areyonga**
 - **\$90,889.46 towards Upgrades to the Football Oval in Hermannsburg**

ITEM NUMBER:	12.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Resignations and Terminations
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-45 RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

- a) **notes that the following memberships have been revoked due to their absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings:**
 - **Camilla Hayes from the Santa Teresa Local Authority; and**
- b) **notes that Sarah Gallagher from the Areyonga Local Authority has stepped down from her position as Chairperson and will continue as a member of the Authority.**

ITEM NUMBER:	12.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Nominations
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, 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.

OCM2026-46 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council considers the nominations received and appoints Garrard Anderson and Ashley Robertson to the Papunya Local Authority.

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 since the report to the March 2026 Council meeting.

OCM2026-47 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council notes the correspondence received and sent.

14 PRESIDENT'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 report presented at the March 2026 meeting of Council.

OCM2026-48 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)

That Council receives the President's report for the period 1st March to the 1st April 2026.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	15.1
TITLE:	Council Services 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.

OCM2026-49 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the Council Services Report.

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 10.27am – meeting resumed at 10.46am.

Minute note: Cr Allen left the meeting at the recess due to ill health.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.2
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 Care and Children's services for March 2026, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2026-50 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Matthew Palmer)

That Council notes and accepts the Aged Care and Children's services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.3
TITLE:	Youth and Community Safety Report
AUTHOR:	Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Childcare Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of Youth and Community Safety services for March 2026, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2026-51 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the Youth and Community Safety Services report.

Minute note: Cr Allen returned to the meeting at 12.19pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.4
TITLE:	People & Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights current and completed People & Capabilities (P&C) initiatives or activities affecting Council and our number one resource – the people!

OCM2026-52 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

Minute note: The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.36pm and resumed at 1.20pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.5
TITLE:	Finance Report period ending 31 March 2026
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 31 March 2026.

OCM2026-53 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 31 March 2026.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.6
TITLE:	2025-26 Budget Review V2
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a review by Managers, Directors, and the CEO, amendments have been recommended to Council's budget within the Regional Plan. These changes reflect the finalisation of unspent grants, confirmation of existing grant funding, acceptance of new grants, and updates to projected income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

OCM2026-54 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Andrew Davis)

That Council adopts the amendments to the Budget 2025-2026 pursuant to Section 203(2) of the Local Government Act 2019.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.7
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.

OCM2026-55 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for March 2026.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.8
TITLE:	Determination of Remuneration Tribunal 2026
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2026 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils has been tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and is being presented for the information of Members.

OCM2026-56 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lynn Ward)

That Council notes the Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2026 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.9
TITLE:	Gifts and Benefits Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Gifts and Benefits Policy v3.

OCM2026-57 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Patrick Allen)

That Council adopts the Gifts and Benefits Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.10
TITLE:	Local Authorities Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Local Authorities Policy v3.

OCM2026-58 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council adopts the Local Authorities Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.11
TITLE:	Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3.

OCM2026-59 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lynn Ward)

That Council adopts the Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.12
TITLE:	Youth Boards Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the update of the Youth Boards Policy v3.

OCM2026-60 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council adopts the Youth Boards Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.13
TITLE:	Discussion Paper 2026-2027 Regional Plan
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is being asked to consider the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, KPI’s and Targets that have been developed for inclusion in the Regional Plan 2026-27. These Goals, etc., incorporate Council’s feedback and the invaluable feedback provided by the Local Authorities.

OCM2026-61 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Matthew Palmer)

That Council considers and accepts the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, KPI’s and Targets which have been developed for inclusion in the Regional Plan 2026-27.

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.

OCM2026-62 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)

That Elected Members raised no items of concern that they wished to be discussed in this meeting.

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.

OCM2026-63 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

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 closed at 1.47pm.

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

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

ITEM NUMBER:	19.1
TITLE:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and re-admittance of the public
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 opened to the public following the consideration of confidential matters. Resolutions will be transferred to the open meeting upon the determination of Council.

OCM2026-64 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)

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:

OCM2026-65 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Confidential Council Meeting held 20 March 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

OCM2026-66 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council approves the write-off of rates in the amount of \$15,629.68 as being irrecoverable.

OCM2026-67 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That Council approves the write-off of rates, charges and accrued interest as at 17 February 2026 in the amount of \$12,051.50 as being irrecoverable.

OCM2026-68 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council:

- a) confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the CEO Review Committee meeting held 16th April 2026;
- b) approves the renewal of the CEO contract for a period of 2 years; and
- c) accepts the quantum of the CEO's remuneration as determined by the Committee with the amount to remain confidential.

OCM2026-69 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That Council does not support the Administration proceeding with an assessment of the viability of changing the payroll cycle.

Minute note: Cr McDonald asked if the Administration could look into the situation regarding the availability of public toilets in the communities to which the Bush Bus travels.

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting – Special Council meeting 29 May 2026 - 10:00am.

21 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2.27pm.

This page and the preceding 11 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting Held on Friday 17 April 2026 and are unconfirmed.

President