MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT GLEN HELEN ON FRIDAY, 31ST OCTOBER, 2014 AT 10AM

1. MEETING OPEN - meeting declared open at 10:09am.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors: Shire President Sid Anderson in the Chair, Deputy Roxanne Kenny, Councillors Lance Abbott, Greg Sharman, Barry Abbott, Marlene Abbott, Selina Kulitja, Braydon Williams, Louise Cavanagh

MSC Staff: Jeff MacLeod (CEO), Chris Kendrick (Dir. Corporate Services), Tracey Brand (Dir. Community Services), Graham Murnik (Dir. Service Delivery), Simon Murphy (Dir. Tech Services), Levina Phillips (Governance Officer)

Apologies: Cnr Irene Nangala

Absent: Cnr Richard Doolan, Cnr Jacob Hoosan

Guests: George Timmson (DCS), Kaaren Smethurst (DCS), Bruce Fyfe (DLG), Stephanie Campbell (CLC)

3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. President Sid Anderson requests a leave of absence from 1/11/14 to 5/12/14.
   (President requested leave at last OCM in August but leave hadn’t been taken)

   AGREED – CARRIED

4. SHIRE CODE OF CONDUCT

MOTION:
(a) Council noted and accepted the Council Code of Conduct.

NOTED - CARRIED

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

MOTION:
(a) That Council note and accept the Disclosure of Financial Interests and Conflict of Interest policy and declare any Conflict of Interest.

NOTE: Council has no Conflict of Interests to declare.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED
6. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.2 Stephanie Campbell, Central Land Council

- Ms Campbell answered questions from Councillors regarding the lack of maintenance and repairs being reported to Zodiac which were not being followed up.
- Councillors stated that NT Housing should be going to communities to see what is actually happening on the ground and making decisions from those visits.
- A number of issues were raised about the affect the lose of the housing contract has had on communities.
- A request for information on were NPARIH is at was made, nothing has happened in the last 2 years.
- President Sid Anderson requests that CLC email all regional offices the housing complaints form for people to complete when reports are not being followed through.
- letters from Housing Reference Groups have been sent to NT Housing with no responses that they were received or will be followed up.
- Ms Campbell informed Council about the ‘Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Bodies’

6.3 Kaaren Smethurst - Regional Coordinator Remote Engagement, Dept. Community Services

- a powerpoint presentation was made to Council for feedback on a new NTG Remote Engagement and Coordination Strategy.
- Council are asked to nominate one or two Councillors to attend meetings with the newly formed Inter-Agency Working Group to provide feedback, comments and suggestions.
- President Anderson suggests that DCS get this information out to the communities so Councillors can consult with community members before deciding on who to nominate to the Inter-Agency Working Group.
- Cnr Barry Abbott is available to attend the first meeting to be held on 5th November, Dpty Roxanne Kenny and Cnr Greg Sharman to attend the second meeting in December.
- President Sid Anderson states that communities already have their own way of Governance and that the NT Government should be listening to them and learning from them.
- Council believes proper consultations with communities are needed so the right messages are being taken away. Often people don’t fully understand what is being said because of the language barriers and interpreters not being utilised.

MORNING TEA BREAK: 11:05am            MEETING RESUMED:  11:15am

6.1 George Timmson – Oustations, Dept. Community Services

- A discussion was had with Councillors regarding issues at outstations and difficulties with maintenance and essential services.
- Mr Timmson answered questions and explained processes of funding applications and eligibility criteria requirements for the Homelands Extra Allowance.
- it was stated that a lot of outstations that have been listed as abandoned or intermittent is because of no water and/or old infrastructure, can the department look at a way for those with a genuine want to move back to their outstations to be able to qualify for MES & HEA?

Mr Timmson replied that there is no scheme at the moment but there have been talks about how to manage this as there is not enough funding available.

The department has been speaking to NTG about possible ABA funding for outstations.
7. NOTICES OF MOTION – NIL

8. RECISSION MOTIONS - NIL

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION:
(a) Council accepted the draft minutes of the last Ordinary Council meeting held on Friday 29th August, 2014 as read and accept as a true record of the meeting.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Deputy Roxanne Kenny
CONFIRMED & ACCEPTED - CARRIED

10. MINUTES OF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS

MOTION:
(a) Council noted the following draft minutes for the Local Authority meetings held in Community for the period 1 September 2014 – 29 October 2014.

- Imanpa - 3 September, 2014
- Titjikala - 10 September, 2014
- Finke - 23 October, 2014
- Kintore - 23 October, 2014

Including the following tabled Confidential minutes:

- Santa Teresa - 11 September, 2014
- Areyonga - 17 September, 2014
- Ntaria - 23 September, 2014
- Haasts Bluff - 24 September, 2014
- Amoonguna - 7 October, 2014
- Docker River - 8 October, 2014
- Papunya - 16 October, 2014

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Barry Abbott
NOTED - CARRIED

11. STANDING ITEMS REPORT

11.1 Use of the Common Seal

MOTION:
(a) Council ratified the use of the common seal on the following funding agreements;

- 2014 – 15 NT Jobs Package Funding
- CLC Funding – Haasts Bluff Lease Money, Kintore Casket Trolley & Lowering Device
- 2014 Power & Water Token Services Agreement
- 2014 – 15 Active Remote Communities Funding
11.2 Actions Register Report

Action 1: LA Request to Council – Ntaria Library – CLOSED

- Ntaria Local Authority has requested that Council staff look into funding options as and when they become available.

Action 2: Areyonga Swimming Pool – CLOSED

- Areyonga Local Authority were happy for Council to not write a letter on their behalf to the Min. Indigenous Affairs re: recurrent funding for pools, as they have received funding.

Action 3: Housing maintenance – ONGOING

RESOLUTION:
(a) Council by resolution agreed to write to the Chair of CLC to invite the Regional Coordinators to attend the Local Authority meetings to gather information regarding housing maintenance issues.

ACTION: Council to write a letter to the Chair of CLC.

Action 4: Outstations – ONGOING

- Deputy Councillor Roxanne Kenny and Cnr Braydon Williams to organise a time for a Community meeting to meet with George Timmson.

ACTION: Council to write to George Timmson inviting him on behalf of Ntaria community to attend a Community meeting.

Action 5: Solar street lighting – IN PROGRESS

- Solar bollards will be installed soon for trial in Docker River, Finke, Papunya and Imanpa.
- a report will be presented to Council at the next OCM in December.

MOTION:
(a) Council noted and accepted the Actions Register Report.

Moved: Cnr Lance Abbott
Seconded: Cnr Selina Kulitja
NOTED & ACCEPTED - CARRIED

12. PRESIDENT AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS - NIL
13. OFFICERS REPORTS

13.1 Proposed Calendar of Council Meetings for 2015

MOTION:
(a) Council adopts the draft proposed calendar of meetings & dates for 2015 as follows;

❖ Finance & Risk Committee – 30 January 2015
- 27 March 2015
- 29 May 2015
- 31 July 2015
- 25 September 2015
- 27 November 2015

❖ Ordinary Council Meetings – 27 February 2015
- 17 April 2015
- 26 June 2015
- 28 August 2015
- 30 October 2015
- 11 December 2015

❖ Special Council Meeting – 29 May 2015

❖ Audit Committee Meeting – 31 July 2015

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Barry Abbott
APPROVED – CARRIED

13.2 Local Authority Requests to Council

DISCUSSION:

Council have recommended this report be moved from Officers Report on the agenda, to now become Agenda Item 10.2.

MOTION:
(a) Council supports the membership of Martin Jugadai and Douglas Multa on the Haasts Bluff Local Authority.
(b) Council supports the membership of Matthew Alice as a youth member of the Santa Teresa Local Authority.
(c) Council noted that due to resignations from the Finke and Areyonga Local Authorities a new nomination process will be held for the vacant positions.

Moved: Cnr Lance Abbott
Seconded: Cnr Louise Cavanagh
APPROVED – CARRIED

13.3 Policy Updates for Council

MOTION:
(a) Council approves the updated Local Authority Policy.

(b) Council approves the updated Councillor and Local Authority Member Allowance Policy.

(c) Council approves the updated Elected Members Allowances Policy.
13.4 Professional Development for Councillors

MOTION:
(a) Council noted the professional development opportunities available and approves Councillors Roxanne Kenny and Braydon Williams attend a course on community engagement called “Engagement Essentials” on 18th November 2014 in Darwin.

Moved: Cnr Braydon Williams
Seconded: Cnr Roxanne Kenny
CARRIED

13.5 Communications Strategy and Community Engagement Plan

MOTION:
(a) Council endorsed the proposed process for developing the Communications Strategy and Community Engagement Plan.
(b) Council advised staff of key thoughts and ideas on what they would like to see happen as a result of the Strategy and Plan through a survey handed out to each Councillor.

Moved: Cnr Selina Kulitja
Seconded: Cnr Greg Sharman
ENDORSED - CARRIED

13.6 Grant Funding Acquittals

MOTION:
(a) Council noted and accepts the following 2013/14 grant acquittals;
   - Community Engagement Funding – Induction Package HR & Youth Governance Program
   - Closing the Gap Grant – 2011/12 Strengthening Governance
   - Special Purpose Grant – Upgrade of parks at Finke and Imanpa
   - Closing the Gap Grant – Strengthening Local Boards
   - Closing the Gap Grant - Rebranding

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Barry Abbott
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

13.7 Annual Report & Audited Financial Statements

MOTION:
(a) Council accepts the Annual Report and audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2014.

Moved: Cnr Lance Abbott
Seconded: Cnr Greg Sharman
CARRIED
13.8 2014/15 Budget Review

MOTION:
(a) Council noted and accepted the Community Services Report.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Lance Abbott
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

BREAK: 12:35pm MEETING RESUMED: 1:40pm

13.9 Finance Report as at 30 September 2014

MOTION:
(a) Council noted and accepted the Finance report as at 30th September 2014.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Roxanne Kenny
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

13.10 Community Services Report

- IAS funding application has been completed
- Workforce Development Strategy currently being developed
- NT Police are extending the Community Safety Action Plan Strategy across MRC communities with it already in place in Titjikala and is working well.

MOTION:
(a) Council notes and accepts the Community Services Report.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Braydon Williams
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

13.11 Service Delivery Report

- Indigenous Works Assistants from Santa Teresa, Titjikala and Amoonguna have signed on as MRC trainees with Apprenticeships Australia NT and have started their Cert II Rural Operations Training.
- Solar bollard lighting is being trialled at Imanpa with positive feedback received and more have been requested to be installed.
- MRC is funded by DoCS to deliver MES/HMS to 21 of the 41 previously funded outstations.
- Tidy Towns – wins to Titjikala, Finke, Ikuntji and Wallace Rockhole with MacDonnell Regional Council winning the overall best Council in the NT.

MOTION:
(a) Council notes and accepts the Service Delivery Report.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Lance Abbott
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED
13.12 Homelands Program 2014/15 Funding Review

- A review of the homelands funding program was completed and as a result of this all Homelands associated with Aputula, Kaltukatjara and Walungurru have been discontinued from the program.
- the outcome of the review was based on information provided by the Council in the Homelands occupancy/dwelling report.
- MRC was not consulted with regard to the review by the DoCS.

MOTION:
(a) Council notes and accepts the Homelands Program 2014/15 Funding Review report, and supports ongoing negotiation with the Department of Community Services for the continued funding of 5 Homelands (Alice Well, Charlotte Waters, Beer St bore, Ngutjul and Pinpiringa) in the 2014/15 program.

Moved: Cnr Lance Abbott
Seconded: Cnr Barry Abbott
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

13.13 Technical Services Report

- MRC have finalised a ‘License to maintain’ agreement with CLC.
- CAL accreditation has been awarded for this Financial Year.
- ‘Roads to Recovery’ funding has been approved for the next 5 years.
- MRC have submitted an application for IAS funding to assist with the Pools.
- Childcare Capital Works upgrades have been completed at Docker River, Ikuntji, Kintore, Mt Leibig, Titjikala and Papunya.

Note: Council to follow-up leasing at Ntaria with Central Land Council.

MOTION:
(a) Council notes and accepts the Technical Services report.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Lance Abbott
NOTED & ACCEPTED – CARRIED

13.14 Papunya heavy vehicle by-pass road

- MRC made enquires with NTG Dept of Infrastructure about road trains driving through cultural sites around the edge of Papunya Community, they were told no plans are underway to construct a by-pass road at Papunya.
- MRC will now request the work via DOI after Council endorsement.

MOTION:
(a) Council endorse the Papunya Local authority decision from their meeting on 21/08/2014 to seek the construction of a heavy vehicle by-pass road around Papunya.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Braydon Williams
ENDORSED – CARRIED
13.15 CLC lease term agreements

MOTION:
(a) Council considered the variation in the standard lease term MRC are seeking (40 years) for Imanpa and accept the lease term of 10 years.

(b) Council considered the variation to the standard lease term MRC are seeking (40 years) for Mount Leibig and accept the lease term of 12 years.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
Seconded: Cnr Roxanne Kenny
ACCEPTED & AGREED – CARRIED

14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

14.1 Rates – Request for Concession

This report will be dealt with under Section 65(2) (b) of the Local Government Act 2008 and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2008. It contains information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

Moved: Cnr Greg Sharman
2nd: Cnr Barry Abbott
CARRIED

14.2 CEO Performance Appraisal

This report will be dealt with under Section 65(2) (b) of the Local Government Act 2008 and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2008. It contains information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Council recommend Sue Davey from LGANT as an independent panel member, also Cnrs Roxanne Kenny, Greg Sharman, Barry Abbott and Braydon Williams to the panel.

Moved: Cnr Barry Abbott
Seconded: Cnr Lance Abbott
CARRIED

15 MEETING CLOSE – 4:15pm

16 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING –

Friday 12th December, 2014 in Alice Springs.

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING 9 PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE Ordinary Council Meeting HELD ON FRIDAY 31st October, 2014 AND UNCONFIRMED.