MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD
IN THE FINKE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2020 AT 9:30AM

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1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.40am

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Jill Doolan

3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS / NOMINATIONS

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chair Michael Ferguson, Member Charmaine Stuart, Member Michelle Allen and Member Jill Doolan

Councillors:

Cr Susan Doolan, Cr Lynette Ellis, Cr Greg Sharman and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees:

Ken Newman (Director Service Delivery), Donelle CT Fraser (Manager Service Delivery), Heather Smith (Council Services Coordinator), Danielle Schaeche (WHS Coordinator) and Darren Pfitzner (Manager Governance and Engagement

Guests:

Enock Menge (Department Local Government, Housing and Community Development), Andrew Ross (Department of Education), Manuel Dougherty (Community Paster) and Jubilee Dougherty (Pastor's Wife)

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies: Member Rosemary Matasia

Absentees: Member Richard Doolan and Member Samuel Doolan

3.3 Resignations

Nil

3.4 Terminations

3.4.1 TERMINATIONS

FLA2020-061 **RESOLVED (Jill Doolan/Michael Ferguson)**
That the Finke Local Authority terminate Samuel Doolan from the Finke Local Authority membership for being Absent from the meeting twice consecutively.

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 NOMINATIONS

FLA2020-002 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority call for community nominations to fill the one current vacant position.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

FLA2020-003 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority note the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MINUTES

FLA2020-004 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and confirm the minutes of the previous general meeting on Thursday 15 August 2019.

5.2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS PROVISIONAL MINUTES

FLA2020-005 **RESOLVED (Lynette Ellis/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and confirm the minutes of the previous provisional meeting on Thursday 7 November 2019 with the correction to the record that Samuel Doolan was an Absentee.

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

6.1 ACCCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

FLA2020-006 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Lynette Ellis)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the agenda for this meeting and will note and discuss issues that arise in Item 12.1 or Item 13.1.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

FLA2020-007 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Michael Ferguson)**
That the Finke Local Authority:
a) note the Conflict of Interest policy: and
b) members declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda

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8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 LOCAL ENGAGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING COMMITTEES INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Andrew Ross – Manager Community Engagement from the Department of Education is providing the Finke Local Authority a background information about the Education Department's Local Engagement and Decision (LEaD) Initiative and seek advice on membership of a LEaD Committee.

This Initiative has already been presented to the parents of the Finke School who advised that the presentation needed to be presented to the Finke Local Authority.

FLA2020-008 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the deputation and provide advice on membership of a Local Engagement and Decision Committee.

8.2 LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE NEW GUIDELINE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Enock Menge - Regional Manager Local Government and Community Development Central Australia is providing the Local Authorities an overview of some of the proposed changes to the Local Government Act and the Guideline relating to Local Authorities and to ask for comments and feedback of the proposed changes.

FLA2020-009 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Lynette Ellis)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the deputation and provide comments and feedback on the proposed changes.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The Local Authority receive Project Funds from the NTG Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Services for investing in local government community projects.

There is a total un-committed balance of $15,080.00 to allocate in their community.
$0 is from the 2018/19 Project Fund and must be expended before 30 June 2020.
$15,080.00 is from the 2019/20 Project Fund and must be expended before 30 June 2021.

FLA2020-010 **RESOLVED (Jill Doolan/Michelle Allen)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the progress of their projects.

FLA2020-011 **RESOLVED (Susan Doolan/Michelle Allen)**
That the Finke Local Authority allocate an additional $10,000 to Project 2192 for 2 shade structures at the oval.

FLA2020-012 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority allocate $3,000 to 8 park benches with backs for the cemetery and the oval making Priority 1 a new project.

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9.2 DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The Local Authority is granted $4,000 from the Council every new financial year to spend on enhancing the community and decisions about how to spend this money must benefit everybody. This money cannot be carried over from year to year and it must be spend (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

FLA2020-013 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and discuss the spending of their 2019/20 discretionary funds.

9.3 LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING MEMBERS AND NT ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
On 20 December 2019 the Acting Executive Director of Local Government and Community Development wrote to President Roxanne Kenny to remind the MacDonnell Regional Council of important matters contained in recent communications.

The letter's two main points outline the need for Councillors and Local Authority members to:
1. disclose any conflict of interest that may arise from a matter before any Council or Local Authority discussion: and
2. stand down before nominating as a candidate in the NT Elections

FLA2020-014 **RESOLVED (Lynette Ellis/Greg Sharman)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the correspondence from the department.

10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES COORDINATOR'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
This report is an update of Council delivered services in Finke across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

FLA2020-015 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept the attached report prepared by Heather Smith, Council Services Coordinator, Finke.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

FLA2020-016 **RESOLVED (Greg Sharman/Michael Ferguson)**
That Finke Local Authority note and accept the Community Services report.

LUNCH break from 12.35 – 1.00pm

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11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS

11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The expenditure report shows spending until 31 December 2019 in the Local Authority community.

FLA2020-017 **RESOLVED (Lynette Ellis/Susan Doolan)**
That the Local Authority note and accept the Expenditure Report as at 31 December 2019.

11.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND THE REGIONAL PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The Regional Plan is developed every year after consultation with the MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) community 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 to meet the objectives of the 2019-20 Regional Plan and to provide input into the development of the 2020-21 Regional Plan.

FLA2020-018 **RESOLVED (Susan Doolan/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority accept the report and give their input:
a) for the open space meeting to be held at Titji Park in Finke; and
b) for the Regional Plan to include improving Youth Services in Finke.

11.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING PROCESS AND TIMING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The order of agenda items for Local Authority meetings was changed recently to align with changes made to the order of agenda items for Council meetings. While this was an adjustment made across all its meeting agendas, MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) is interested to know if this affects the running of Local Authority meetings and hear suggestions from members about other improvements that could be made to the meeting format and content.

MRC also asks the Local Authority to consider the impacts and benefits if it were to hold meetings at different times of the day. Particular consideration is asked of meetings being held after work hours and whether this would then appeal to a broader range of people becoming Local Authority members.

FLA2020-019 **RESOLVED (Lynette Ellis/Greg Sharman)**
That the Finke Local Authority note and accept this report and provide the feedback to <u>not</u> hold night meetings.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2

12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
At the beginning of the meeting, under item 6.2, members of the Santa Teresa Local Authority have an opportunity to provide notification of matters to be raised in General Business.

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NOTE There were no matters raised for discussion

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3

13.1 OTHER NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The Department of Local Government Housing and Community Development will be in attendance to provide any necessary updates in regards to Northern Territory Government services.

At the beginning of the meeting, under item 6.3, members of the Imanpa Local Authority have an opportunity to provide notification of matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business.
We are now discussing the matters raised as listed below:

FLA2020-020 **RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority:
a) note and discuss the Non-Council Business items of 1) Police, 2) Room to Breathe/New Houses, and 3) Mobile phone coverage, that were raised during the meeting;
b) note and accept any updates and progress on actions from the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development; and
c) close both Community Safety Plans and Finke Development Road items

FLA2020-021 **RESOLVED (Lynette Ellis/Charmaine Stuart)**
That the Finke Local Authority open action for department to explain when the overdue 4 new house builds will be delivered.

FLA2020-022 **RESOLVED (Jill Doolan/Susan Doolan)**
That the Finke Local Authority open action for the department to explain the status of the Room to Breathe program

FLA2020-023 **RESOLVED (Charmaine Stuart/Lynette Ellis)**
That the Finke Local Authority open action for the department to explain when a mobile phone service will be available in Finke.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 21 MAY 2020

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2.10pm.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2020 and are UNCONFIRMED.