



MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE
COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2022 AT 10:30AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was postponed to reconvene at 11.11AM and started as a zoom meeting before moving to audio due to connectivity issues.

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Member Michael Ferguson (Chairperson), Member Rosemary Matasia and Member Richard Doolan

Councillors:

Councillor Lisa Sharman, Councillor Ellis, Councillor Patrick Allen and Councillor Annie Young video called in from Santa Teresa office,

Council Employees:

Belinda Urquhart - Director Service Centre Delivery, Ken Satour – Area Manager Service Delivery, David Thomson – Council Services Coordinator Finke, June Crabb – Governance Officer.

Guests:

Matthew Adams-Richardson – Department Chief Minister & Cabinet Representative,
Bill Yan MLA – Member for Namatjira and Danny Measures – Liaison Officer for Bill Yan.

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Jill Doolan, Member Charmaine Stuart, Member Michelle Allen and President Roxanne Kenny.

Absentees:

Nil

3.1,3.2 & 3.3 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

FLA2022-057 RESOLVED (Cr Ellis/Patrick Allen)

That the Finke Local Authority noted and accepted the attendance and apologies to the meeting.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 NOMINATIONS TO FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the changes to the membership of the Local Authority. Appointments to the Local Authorities have also been affected by changes introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act) as a nomination now has to be endorsed by an existing Local Authority member.

It was noted that a vacancy was created at the meeting held 6 April 2022 as a result of a membership being revoked for being absent without permission from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

Since then, a nomination has been received from community resident Geoffrey Stuart

This report highlights the nomination received.

FLA2022-058 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Cr Ellis)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) approved the nomination received from Geoffrey Stuart; and
- b) requested that Council endorse the nominee to the Finke Local Authority.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

FLA2022-059 RESOLVED (Rosemary Matasia/Michael Ferguson)

That the Finke Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF LA PREVIOUS MINUTES

FLA2022-060 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the Minutes of the Finke Local Authority of 13 July 2022 be adopted as a resolution of Finke Local Authority.

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

FLA2022-061 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)

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

6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

FLA2022-062 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Cr Ellis)

That the members provided notification of the following matter to be raised for discussion in General Council Business:

- Mobile Coverage.

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

FLA2022-063 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Cr Ellis)

That the members provided notification of the following matter to be raised for discussion in Non-Council Business:

- Mobile Coverage.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

FLA2022-064 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

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

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

FLA2022-065 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the Finke Local Authority declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

Nil

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.

FLA2022-066 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Richard Doolan)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted the progress reports on actions from the minutes of previous meetings as received; and
- b) kept action – Renegotiating an alternative site for the WMF open, noting that CLC will be holding a meeting in Community on the 16th October 2022 in regards to a site and it was recommended that members attend the meeting to voice their opinions.

9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet (DCM&C) and invested in projects 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. For example - office upgrades, fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. For example - trailers, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures /stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community sporting facilities. For example upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation.
- Festivals or other events – but must only be conducted within a council's own Local Authority area.

As part of Finke Community's 2021/2022 Project funds grant, the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet had released an allocation of \$26,900.00 towards Community projects.

The Local Authority has committed all available funds to projects and there is nil balance remaining to allocate.

FLA2022-067 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the progress of its projects and kept open
 - Project 2133 – Trees around Oval, noting that the trees would be delivered and planted as part of the Healthy Community event;
 - Project 2135 – Wood fire BBQ, noting that the cement had been received;
 - Project 2136 – Fence around Cemetery, noting that a water tank would be installed at the cemetery and that quotes for the fence was on hold until the lease to extend is approved by CLC.

9.3 DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

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 2022 and 30 June 2023.

FLA2022-068 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Richard Doolan)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted that their full allocation of \$4,000.00 was still available; and
- b) chose to allocate their funds at a later date.

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.

FLA2022-069 RESOLVED (Richard Doolan/Michael Ferguson)

That the Finke Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Service Delivery Report.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

FLA2022-070 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)

That the Finke Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.

11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS

11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31ST AUGUST 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31st August 2022 in the Local Authority Community.

FLA2022-071 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Richard Doolan)

That the Finke Local Authority noted and accepted the expenditure report as at 31 August 2022.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2

12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Under item 6.2, members have the opportunity to raise matters of General Business that are discussed at this report.

FLA2022-072 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Richard Doolan)

That the Finke Local Authority discussed the General Business items raised as follows:

- a) **Mobile Coverage.**

A request was asked if Council could discuss this item at their next OCM as the service was very poor. It was advised by the Director Service Centre Delivery that she will broach the topic at the OCM in general discussion.

b) Healthy Community event.

Director Service Delivery advised that through an initiative from NTG, MRC will be hosting a Healthy Community event in all 13 of its communities.

The focus of the event is to promote Healthy lifestyle choices that encourages healthy practices to improve community livability.

Some of the planned activities and talks include cooking demonstrations and competitions, gardening, tree planting, the importance of cleanliness and hygiene, animal education and appearances from special guests including Dirt Girl and Scrap Boy.

It will be a fun day out and recommended that all of community participate.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3

13.1 OTHER NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to note and discuss the matters raised at item 6.3 and to be informed of any updates to the actions relating to the services provided by the Northern Territory Government.

FLA2022-073 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Cr Ellis)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted that the updates on the current actions will be discussed at the next Local Authority meeting; and discussed the item raised at 6.3 being:

- **Mobile Coverage.**

The Representative advised that he had conducted a speed test and the results were very poor. He advised that he will make it a priority that Telstra responds to his request for information regarding the inadequate mobile reception service that is being provided for at Finke.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2023

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 pm.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 5 October 2022 and was confirmed Thursday, 9 March 2023.