



MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE
COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 26 JULY 2023 AT 10:30AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:36AM

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chair Michael Ferguson

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Michael Ferguson, Member Jill Doolan and Member Richard Doolan

Councillors:

Councillor Lisa Sharman, Councillor Patrick Allen, and Councillor Andrew Davis

Council Employees:

Keith Hassett, Director Service Centre Delivery and June Crabb, Governance Officer

Guests:

Bruce Fyfe, Regional Manager LGCATRG - Department Chief Minister and Cabinet, Adrian McAdam, A/Remote Community Engagement Officer - Department of Corrections, Reuben Leigh and Jason Quin, Project Officers Empowered Communities – NPY Lands

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Charmaine Stuart, Member Michelle Allen, Member Rosemary Matasia and Member Geoffrey Stuart

Absentees:

Councillor Aloyisio Hayes

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

FLA2023-037 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Richard Doolan)

That members noted the attendance and apologies received from Members Charmaine Stuart, Michelle Allen, Rosemary Matasia and Member Geoffrey Stuart

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

NIL

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

FLA2023-038 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)

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

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

FLA2023-039 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the Minutes of the Finke Local Authority of 03 May 2023 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

FLA2023-040 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

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

FLA2023-041 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That members did not raise any matters for discussion in General Council Business

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

FLA2023-042 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That members did not raise any matters for discussion in General Non-Council Business.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

FLA2023-043 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Jill Doolan)

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

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

FLA2023-044 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)

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

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 INFORMATION ON THE 2023 FEDERAL REFERENDUM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Representatives from Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Lands are in attendance to raise awareness of the upcoming referendum and get feedback on the best process to bolster community understanding.

FLA2023-045 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Jill Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and received the information from the Representatives; and**
- b) provided feedback to bolster community awareness of the up and coming referendum, by advising that the Representatives organise a meeting with community.**

8.2 ELDERS VISITING PROGRAM - NTCS ABORIGINAL STRATEGY AND COORDINATION UNIT.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Elders Visiting Program commenced in 2005 and operates throughout the NT Correctional facilities and Communities. The program recognises that cultural contact with Aboriginal Elders can improve the reintegration prospects of Aboriginal prisoners by maintaining links to community and culture.

The program currently works with Elders from 20 communities across the NT towards reducing recidivism (reoffending) and to improve the reintegration prospects of Aboriginal prisoners to community.

Elders involved in this program visit the Prisons and Work camps and participate in mediated discussions with offenders in preparation for their release. The Elders advise prisoners on their obligations, expectations and the difficulties they are likely to face on their release and strive to assist and support them while they readjust back into their community.

FLA2023-046 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Richard Doolan)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the Deputation;**
- b) discussed to support the Elders Visiting Program of improving the reintegration prospects of Aboriginal prisoners back into community.**

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 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.

The NTG Project funds commitment of \$26,900.00 received for 2023/2024 has been fully allocated.

FLA2023-047 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the progress of its projects and kept open Project 2135 – Wood fire BBQ until completed;
- b) noted the commitment from the NTG 2023/2024 Project funding allocation of \$26,900.00; and
- c) noted the following to Project 2136 – Fence around the Cemetery:
 - accepted quote QU-0208 from AJ Nichol Fencing for \$70,029.54 excl GST;
 - approved to allocate the 2023/2024 Project funds of \$26,900.00
 - noted the allocation to the project came to \$56,416.55; and
 - accepted the agreement that MRC will commit \$13,612.99 being the difference between the quote and the project allocation.

9.2 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 2023 and 30 June 2024.

FLA2023-048 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lisa Sharman)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted that the Authority forfeited their 2022/2023 Discretionary funds allocation of \$4,000.00;
- b) noted the new 2023/2024 allocation of \$4,000.00; and
- c) approved that the full amount be spent on gardening equipment for each house to include rake, shovel and hose.

10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT FINKE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

FLA2023-049 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Richard Doolan)

That the Local Authority That the Finke Local Authority notes and accepts the Council Service Delivery Report, Finke.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

FLA2023-050 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 30 JUNE 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 30 June 2023 in the Local Authority community.

FLA2023-051 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the Finke Local Authority noted and accepted the Expenditure Report as at 30 June 2023.

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.

FLA2023-052 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That the Finke Local Authority noted that no matters were raised for discussion at item 6.2

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.

FLA2023-053 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) noted that no matters were raised for discussion at Item 6.3;
- b) were advised that the Representative will follow up with DIPL in regards to grading the Ghan Heritage Road;
- c) will inquire with DIPL if the fences have been repaired and the water leak at Lot 54 fixed; and
- d) will make inquiries regarding the Finke finish line be upgraded.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER, 2023

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:46 pm.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 26 July 2023 and are were confirmed 4 October 2023.