

CHARTER

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Alice Springs Town Council

1. Background

Section 54 of the *Local Government Act* enables a council to establish a council committee and appoint its members, determine the terms and conditions on which a person holds office as a member of the committee and assign functions to the committee.

Section 56 provides that a council committee is subject to control and direction by the Council.

Section 41 provides that no civil or criminal liability lies against a member of a council (including a member of a council committee) for an honest act or omission done or made in the performance of the member's official functions.

However, sections 74, 75 and 76 respectively require that, in that performance, a member of a council (including a member of a council committee) disclose any conflict of interest and refrain from disclosing confidential information and making improper use of information. Substantial financial and penal penalties apply for breach of those sections.

2. Establishment

The Alice Springs Town Council (**Council**) pursuant to resolution establishes the Parks Advisory Committee (**the Committee**) as constituted by this Charter.

3. Purpose and function

The purpose and function of the Committee is to advise and make formal representation to Council (through its Technical Services Committee) in matters relating to the development and sustainable management of the Parks Network in the municipality of Alice Springs.

In particular, drawing upon the collective expertise of its members, the Committee is to:

- provide advice and guidance as appropriate to Council on planning and developing the Alice Springs Park Network including matters referred to it by Council or its Technical Services Committee
- provide advice on issues that affect service users
- provide a forum for discussion
- support and guide the development of recommendations for future works within the existing budget framework

4. Membership

There shall be at least 9 members of the Committee (each having one vote) comprising 4 Elected Members and 5 representing the Community/General Public.

5. Term and casual vacancies

- (a) A member of the Committee who is an Elected Member holds office for one (1) year from the date of appointment and a member of the Committee who is not an Elected Member holds office for two (2) years from the date of appointment.
- (b) However, a member may resign at any time within that period by giving written notice to Council's Chief Executive Officer.
- (c) Where a member who is an Elected Member ceases for any reason to be an Elected Member, the Elected Member also ceases to be a member of the Committee.
- (d) Council may terminate the appointment of a member should the member be absent from at least three (3) consecutive meetings of the Committee without leave of the Committee.
- (e) Where a member who is an Elected Member ceases for any reason to be a member of the Committee, Council may fill the casual vacancy so caused with another Elected Member.
- (f) Where a member who is not an Elected Member ceases for any reason to be a member of the Committee, Council may fill casual vacancy so caused from the Community/General Public.

6. Chair

The Chair of the Committee shall always be an Elected Member of Council.

7. Frequency of meetings

Subject to the direction of Council, the Committee shall meet quarterly.

8. Former charters

- (a) This Charter supersedes any and all former Charters of the Parks Advisory Committee.
- (b) However, all existing appointments of membership of the Parks Advisory Committee continue in force subject to this Charter.