

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2023 – ARUNTA ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE.

PRESENT

Mayor Matt Paterson (Acting Chair)

Councillor Mark Coffey

Councillor Gavin

Morris

Aaron Blacker

Central Australian Rugby Union / Central

Australian Rugby Football League

Emily Bainbridge

Alice Springs Netball Association

Alison Huhs

Football in Central Australia

Joel Crawford

Alice Springs Tennis Association

Katie Knappstein

NT Government

Michael Trull

Alice Springs Cricket Association

Peter Porambo

Alice Springs Baseball Association

PJ Mabasa

Alice Springs Hockey Association

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Andrew Wilsmore

CEO

Nicole Battle

Director Community Development

David Hair

Sports Facilities Officer (Minutes)

Heidi Blacker

Executive Assistant

14th Alice Springs Town Council Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Attendance 2023 / 2025

| | 14 Dec 23 | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Mayor Matt Paterson | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Councillor Mark Coffey | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Councillor Gavin Morris | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Aaron Blacker - Rugby Union / League | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Allison Huhs - Soccer | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Jenny Nixon – Netball | -- | | | | | | |
| Joel Crawford - Tennis | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Kelli Zaleski - AFL Northern Territory | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Michael Trull –Cricket | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Peter Porambo - Baseball | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Phillip Preece - Basketball | -- | | | | | | |
| PJ Mabasa - Hockey | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Tim Pearson - Touch Football | A | | | | | | |

✓ Attended

A Apology received

-- No attendance and no apology recorded

Not a member of the committee at this time (Visitor)

The Meeting opened at **11.02am** with Mayor Matt Patterson (Acting Chair) welcoming attendees.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Tim Pearson – Touch Football

Kate Walsh – Manager Community and Cultural Development

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

3.1 **Minutes of the SFAC Meeting held on 27 September 2023**

That the minutes of SFAC held 27 September 2023 be accepted as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved – Matt Patterson

CARRIED

3.2 **Business arising from previous meeting minutes**

3.2.1 Investigation of participation levies - Sports Facilities Officer, David Hair – all outstanding invoices now paid - **ACTIONED**

3.2.2 Pickleball come and try day in Todd Mall - Sports Facilities Officer, David Hair – discussion held with Norelle Clark to discuss potential options for 2024 - **ACTIONED**

3.2.3 Confirm SFAC nominations for Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) – Sports Facilities Officer, David Hair – all nominations accepted at October OCM - **ACTIONED**

3.2.4 Tennis Court resurfacing – Director Community Development, Nicole Battle to request additional funding from Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC) - **ACTIONED**

3.2.5 Basketball Solar Panels – Sports Facilities Officer, David Hair to follow up with Power and Water – Solar Service booked for 20 November 2023 by ASTC Environment Officer in negotiations with Power and Water - **ACTIONED**

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

4.1 Update on completed hockey facility upgrades - **NOTED**

5 FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 SFAC Income and Expenditure – 7 December, 2023

That the SFAC Finance Report be received and accepted.

Moved – Michael Trull

CARRIED

Michael Trull (ASP Cricket) queried \$130,000.00 other anticipated future commitments not yet in the financial for lighting upgrade at Flynn Drive.

CEO took on notice and will follow up **(ACTION)**.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 CBF Funding

Michael Trull advised of \$115,000 commitment for lighting upgrade at Flynn Drive. Suggested that Baseball investigate possibility of putting in an application for funding as part of the next CBF funding round in early 2024.

Sports Development Officer, David Hair to provide information to Baseball **(ACTION)**.

6.2 Proposed SFAC meeting dates for 2024

Aaron Blacker suggested that due to the delivery of three major items from the current Sports Masterplan (Netball Court resurfacing, Tennis Court Resurfacing & the installation of lights at Jim McConville Oval), SFAC should begin planning for a new 10-year Masterplan vision.

It was agreed that a review of actions from the Sports Masterplan be earmarked for further discussion at the next SFAC meeting in early 2024 **(ACTION)**.

In order to ensure that SFAC remains strategically focused, it was further agreed that the Sports Development Officer, David Hair would convene a bi-monthly Sports Development network, focused exclusively on operational matters including facility bookings, maintenance, increasing participation numbers, etc **(ACTION)**.

6.3 Update on ANZAC Oval

Director Community Development, Nicole Battle provided an update on a recent meeting with NTG & other external stakeholders regarding the decommissioning of ANZAC Oval as a sporting facility as of 1 April 2024.

In recognising that the loss of this oval will place additional demand on other existing facilities, it was further noted that an application for \$5 million had been submitted to the Federal Government for an upgrade of Paul Fitzsimmons Oval at Charles Darwin University.

6.4 Licensing Update

Director Community Development, Nicole Battle advised that all licenses are currently in the process of being renewed by ASTC with an expected completion date of early February 2024.

6.5 Maintenance Requests

Director Community Development, Nicole Battle advised that as of January 2024, a centralised email address will be introduced for raising any building maintenance requests in order to streamline the process for all sports.

Sports Development Officer, David Hair to provide further information on building maintenance requests to relevant stakeholders. **(ACTION)**.

7. OTHER BUSINESS**7.1 Netball**

Season to be affected by the scheduled resurfacing of the courts. Will need to play some games throughout the week, which also occurred when the stadium was being built.

7.2 Hockey

Focused on getting field and surrounds up to a standard to allow for A1 hockey to be played in Alice Springs. Currently working with Hockey Australia to bring the Jillaroos back.

7.3 AFL

Has received government funding for a school holiday program targeted at 7- to 12-year-olds during the last two weeks of January.

7.4 Cricket

Season going well, including the new curation arrangements, which has resulted in an increase in the number of games being able to be played on a turf wicket. Advised that the season will recommence on 20 January and requested that the grass be mowed prior to this.

Sports Development Officer, David Hair to advise depot team on grass mowing **(ACTION)**.

7.5 Soccer

Currently in summer competition under lights. Some issues regarding lighting, but these have been resolved quickly. Mayor Patterson flagged the upcoming installation of a new fenced area for dog walkers at Ross Park.

7.6 Rugby Union/League

Both sports are struggling currently, with participation numbers dropping from 900 to 220 since 2017. Have been provided funding from the NT Government for a sports development officer, although the position is yet to be advertised. Looking to start season early February, although this is yet to be confirmed.

7.7 Tennis

Council to assist with a Come & Try day to increase awareness and promote participation. Potential to team this with a public screening of the Australian Open Tennis Women's final in late January.

7.8 Baseball

Great junior numbers have required additional use of Traeger Grass Hockey fields in order to accommodate both T-Ball and Little League. Noted that representatives from the San Diego Padres would soon be coming to Alice Springs to scout for junior talent. Mayor Patterson again encouraged Baseball to apply in next round of CBF funding for a grant to upgrade their existing facilities, including the batting nets. Applications open 1/1/2024 and close 28/2/2024.

8 NEXT MEETING

Date to be advised (February 2024), 12 noon Arunta Room, Alice Springs Town Council.

Mayor Patterson (Acting Chair) declared the meeting closed at **12.09pm**.