

MINUTES OF THE **ORDINARY** MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2023 IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, ALICE SPRINGS

14. RESUMPTION OF MEETING IN OPEN

15. Opening of the Open Meeting by the Mayor (Chair) and Acknowledgement of Country

Mayor Matt Paterson declared the meeting open at **11.01am** and welcomed all present to the meeting.

Mayor Matt Paterson acknowledged the Central Arrernte people who are the traditional owners and custodians of Alice Springs.

Mayor Matt Paterson reminded that this meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's website. By speaking at a Council meeting, you agree to being recorded. Alice Springs Town Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures made during the course of this Council meeting.

Media present – ABC Alice Springs

PRESENT

Mayor M. Paterson (Chair)

Deputy Mayor E. Melky

Councillor M. Banks

Councillor A. Bitar

Councillor S. Brown

Councillor M. Liddle

Councillor G. Morris

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J. McCabe – Acting Chief Executive Officer

Ms N. Battle – Director Community Development & Acting Director Technical Services

Mrs N. Brennan – Acting Director Corporate Services

Ms A. Chin – Executive Assistant (Minutes)

Ms. L. Dy Irwin – Finance Manager

16. PRAYER

Katie Spakman, Living Hope Church

17. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Mark Coffey

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That this apology be received

CARRIED (22594)

Councillor Kim Hopper

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Banks

That this apology be received

CARRIED (22595)

18. WELCOME

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

19.1 Edan Baxter, resident

Mr Baxter asked if the Mayor would consider taking up a position around the Voice to Parliament. Is an assessment/analysis being carried out by Council in the lead up to the referendum.

Mayor Paterson responded that the decision will be made by referendum and that no assessment or analysis is being carried out by Council.

20. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Nil

21. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

21.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Open Meeting held on 28 March, 2023

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 28 March, 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED (22596)

21.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

21.2.1 Councillor Banks – AFLNT Summit

Councillor Banks asked if the plan will be provided to Elected Members.

Mayor Paterson responded the information is on the AFLNT website.

21.2.2 Councillor Banks – Uniting Church Meeting Place

Councillor Banks asked for an update.

The CEO will provide further information.

21.2.3 Councillor Bitar – Bushfire Management and the Responsibility of Council

Councillor Bitar asked for the timeframe for the report to Council.

The CEO responded the report is expected to be presented to Council in May or June.

21.2.4 Councillor Banks – Buffel Grass & Fuel Load

Councillor Banks requested correspondence be sent to the resident in response to buffel grass and fuel load.

Director Technical Services to action.

22 MAYORAL REPORT

22.1 Mayor's Report
Report No. 73 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Banks

That the Mayor's report be received.

CARRIED (22597)

22.2 Business Arising from the Report

22.2.1 Councillor Banks – Federal Government Funding

Councillor Banks sought further clarification around the \$250m funding recently announced by the Federal Government.

Mayor Paterson responded the funding has been allocated to the whole of Central Australia and not just Alice Springs.

22.2.2 Councillor Bitar – Correspondence from Member for Braitling and Member for Araluen

Councillor Bitar asked about the lighting along the Tuncks Road Causeway and Undoolya Road which was raised as a concern in both the letters received.

Was this funding received by Council or was it through the Northern Territory Government?

Mayor Paterson responded that CPTED funding didn't include this area with a response sent to both Members also advising that parts of these areas aren't the responsibility of Council.

22.2.3 Councillor Banks – In Kind Support

Councillor Banks asked on behalf of Councillor Hopper what is the policy and procedure around requests for in kind support.

Mayor Paterson responded the requests are forwarded directly to the CEO for action.

22.2.4 Councillor Banks – Correspondence from Senator McCarthy

Councillor Banks asked if Council has been formally requested to participate in the Voice to Parliament referendum.

Mayor Paterson responded that he has been advised that formal requests will be received from both sides.

23. ORDERS OF THE DAY

- 23.1 That Elected Members and Officers provide notification of matters to be raised in General Business.

23.1.1 Councillor Bitar – Revised Grants Guideline

23.1.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Skatepark Program and Workshop

23.1.3 Councillor Liddle – Dog Walking at Cemetery

24. MEMORIALS

Nil

25. PETITIONS

Nil

26. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

27. FINANCE

- 27.1 Finance Report
Report No. 81 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22598)

- 27.2 Business Arising from the Report

- 27.2.1 Councilor Bitar – Increase in Expenses

Councillor Bitar asked that if expenses have increased, has the figure increase be included in forecasting for the next financial year?

Acting Director Corporate Services responded that some reallocations have taken place for items that have underspends. Inflation costs have been included in the budget.

27.2.2 Councillor Bitar – Capital Expenses, Civic Centre Maintenance

Councillor Bitar asked if the unused expenditure (\$50,000) will be utilized to maintain the Civic Centre.

Acting Director Corporate Services took the question on notice.

27.2.3 Councillor Bitar – Gap Youth Centre

Councillor Bitar asked for an update on the progress of the maintenance.

Director Community Development responded that the maintenance work has commenced.

28. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

28.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

28.1.1 CEO Report

Report No. 74 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Morris

Seconded – Councillor Banks

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22599)

28.1.2 Business Arising from the Report

Mayor Paterson gave an update on the status of the Elected Member Allowances. He is expecting further information before July 1.

Councillor Banks asked if Council will be required to provide a position on this.

Mayor Paterson advised that yes, Council will.

28.1.3 CONFIDENTIAL – Revised 2022 / 2023 Budget

Report No. 70 / 23 cncl

(Item transferred to Open Agenda Item 28.1.3)

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That Council recommend the adoption of the amendments to the budget as detailed, including the revised pages, pursuant to Section 203 (2) of the Local Government Act 2019.

CARRIED (22583)

28.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil

28.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

28.3.1 Community Development Report to Council
Report No. 75 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

That the Community Development Report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22600)

28.3.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.3.2.1 Mayor Paterson – ASALC Open Day

Mayor Paterson reminded Elected Members of the ASALC Open Day on the 29th April to officially open the outdoor gym.

The Mayor went on to thank the Northern Territory Government for their contribution to the funding.

28.3.2.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Financial Impacts in Reports

Deputy Mayor Melky asked that Officers include the financial impacts in their reports.

28.3.3 Volunteering SA/NT Sponsorship Application Report
Report No. 77 / 23 cncl

(Item transferred to Open Agenda Item 9.3.1)

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That Council provides partial funding of \$1,000 (incl. GST) for the sponsorship application from Volunteering SA & NT to deliver the National Volunteer Week event, held 19 May 2023.

CARRIED (22586)

28.3.4 Business Arising from the Report

Nil

28.3.5 8CCC Sponsorship Application Report
Report No. 76 / 23 cncl

(Item transferred to Open Agenda Item 9.3.3)

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Morris

1. **That Council funds the sponsorship application for \$10,000 (incl. GST) from 8CCC Community Radio to deliver One Frequency Festival - Youth and Wellbeing Program, held 17-18 June 2023, in full.**
2. **That funding of \$25,000 be transferred from 0439.241 (Youth Projects) to 0851.592 (Tourism, Events & Promotions).**

CARRIED (22587)

28.3.6 Business Arising from the Report

Nil

28.4 TECHNICAL SERVICES

28.4.1 Technical Services Update to Council
Report No. 78 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22601)

28.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.4.2.1 Deputy Mayor Melky – Reporting Detail

Deputy Mayor Melky asked for more detail to be inserted into the report to allow for a better understanding for both Elected Members and the public.

The CEO responded that the new reporting structure will commence being rolled out from May 2023, with this kind of information being included.

Councillor Bitar went on to ask that when information is promised for a specific time and it's not able to be provided, that this be updated.

29 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

30 GENERAL BUSINESS

30.1 Councillor Bitar – Revised Grants Guidelines

Councillor Bitar asked for timeframe of the revised grant guidelines as they were scheduled to be provided in April.

Director Community Development responded that the guideline will be provided at a forum on 16 May 2023.

30.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Skatepark Program Workshop

Deputy Mayor Melky provided positive feedback received from a member of the public around the recent skatepark workshop, and requested that Council extend the program.

Director Community Development responded that the workshop has been extended as a result of this feedback.

Deputy Mayor Melky asked for a report to be provided to allow for discussion on the inclusion of this program into the budget for the next financial year.

Mayor Paterson advised that this will be included in the next budget discussion.

30.3 Councillor Liddle – Dog Walking at Cemetery

Councillor Liddle raised the issue of dogs being walked within the cemetery.

Director Community Development responded that signage is currently being made for display around dog walking.

31 MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

Media matters will be covered via the media attendance at this meeting.

32 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23 May, 2023

33 ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN MEETING

Mayor Paterson declared the meeting closed at **11.49am.**

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

The Council stands adjourned.

CARRIED (22602)

Confirmed on 06.12.2023

CHAIRPERSON

