

MINUTES OF THE **ORDINARY** MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 23 MAY 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 **11.02am** 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. Coffey *(via Zoom)*

Councillor M. Liddle

Councillor G. Morris

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J. McCabe – Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mr J. Andrew – Director Technical Services

Ms N. Battle – Director Community Development

Ms E. Williams – Executive Assistant (Minutes)

16. PRAYER

Emily Hayes, Uniting Church

17. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Kim Hopper

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That this apology be received.

CARRIED (22635)

Mrs N. Brennan – Acting Director Corporate Services

18. WELCOME

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

19.1 Randall Coombe & Lynnette Hampton, residents

Does ASTC calculate the costs specifically related to the maintenance and upkeep of the town's four (includes nets) turf cricket wickets?

Do councillors consider the amount of expenditure by ASTC on the maintenance and upkeep of the town's turf cricket wickets to be a responsibly worthwhile spend on behalf of rate payers, reflective of the interests of the wider community?

For some background details, councillors should refer to the attached documents, sourced from the ASTC Sports Facilities Plan Report (2020), and Cricket Australia's Community Cricket Guidelines (2015).

The Cricket Australia information regarding estimated annual costs for maintenance and upkeep of turf cricket wickets, would appear to indicate ASTC expenditure must be significant (comfortably more than \$100,000 and perhaps even double that?).

Councillors are also asked to refer to the information provided from the Sports Facilities Plan Report, to consider when they assess whether this expenditure, whatever it is, is a responsibly worthwhile spend, reflective of the interests of the wider community.

While cricket has 348 participants, considerably more than half of them do not play regularly, or at all, on the turf wickets, with the majority of its grades played on various hard wicket venues around town.

Is a spend of such proportions, whatever those proportions actually are, for the benefit of 100-120 locals, justifiable?

The Mayor responded that competitors don't pay to contribute to the upkeep of facilities when playing sport in Alice Springs.

Without the turf wickets, nationally recognised events would not take place

19.2 Eden Baxter, resident

Eden asked for an update on how Council is handling the Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

Mayor Paterson responded that Council continues to liaise with both sides of the Voice. Some official correspondence has received by members of the Yes voice which have indicated that there will be further information pending.

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 26 April, 2023

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 26 April, 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED (22636)

21.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil

22 MAYORAL REPORT

22.1 Mayor's Report
Report No. 87 / 23 cncl

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

That the Mayor's report be received.

CARRIED (22637)

22.2 Business Arising from the Report

Nil

22.3 Freedom of Entry Parade

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 6.3)

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That Council endorse the Freedom of Entry Parade to be held on the 18th August, 2023 to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day.

CARRIED (22614)

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 Deputy Mayor Melky – Jane Road

23.1.2 Councillor Bitar – Marquee Hire Policies and Procedures

23.1.3 Councillor Banks – Exercise Equipment Shade Structures

23.1.4 Councillor Brown – Tennis Court Resurfacing

24. MEMORIALS

Nil

25. PETITIONS

Nil

26. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

27. FINANCE

27.1 Finance Report
Report No. 94 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar
Seconded – Councillor Morris

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22638)

27.2 Business Arising from the Report

27.2.1 Councillor Coffey – Morton Bros. payment

Councillor Coffey asked if this was for the removal of the damaged solar lighting.

Director Technical Services responded that yes and it also included the installation of the new lighting.

28. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

28.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

28.1.1 CEO Report
Report No. 88 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Liddle
Seconded – Councillor Morris

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22639)

28.1.2 Business Arising from the Report
Nil

28.1.3 Draft 2023-24 Municipal Plan and Annual Budget

Report No. 98/23 cncI

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.1.1)

Moved – Councillor Morris

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That Council approve the draft 2023/2024 Municipal Plan and Annual Budget as presented and amended for the purpose of public consultation.

CARRIED (22616)

28.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil

28.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

28.3.1 Community Development Report to Council

Report No. 95 / 23 cncI

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

That the Community Development Report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22640)

28.3.2 Business Arising from the Report

The Mayor thanked both the Northern Territory Government and Council Officers for their contributions in both the installation and the opening of the ASALC exercise equipment.

28.3.3 Rescission Motion

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 4.1 – Special Confidential Meeting of Council held on 18th May, 2023)

Moved – Mayor Paterson

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

That Alice Springs Town Council rescind resolution (22499) resolved at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 February, 2023 which reads as follows:

That Alice Springs Town Council does not support an annual Community Football Competition to be played in Alice Springs for the 2023 season.

CARRIED (22606)

28.3.4 CONFIDENTIAL – Centralian Middle School Sponsorship Application
Report No. 96 / 23 cncl

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.3.1)

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That Council funds the sponsorship application for \$2,000.00 (GST inclusive) from Centralian Middle School to deliver the Centralian Middle School Fete, held 15 June 2023, in full.

CARRIED (22623)

28.3 TECHNICAL SERVICES

28.4.1 Technical Services Update to Council
Report No. 89 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22641)

28.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.4.2.1 Councillor Coffey – Hartley Street Exeloo

Councillor Coffey asked if there a date for the opening of the new toilets.

Director Technical Services responded that preparation work is expected to commence in June.

28.4.2.2 Councillor Bitar – Hartley Street Carpark Lighting Funding

Councillor Bitar asked for an update on the funding.

Director Technical Services responded that temporary fixes have been put in place with funding being sought for longer term assistance.

28.4.2.2 Councillor Bitar – Infrastructure for Approval

Councillor Bitar asked about the footpath installation / extension around Francis Smith Park and Van Senden Avenue. These weren't present in the budget deliberations.

Director Technical Services responded that these are part of the operational budget.

28.4.3 Todd Mall Petition
Report No. 92 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22642)

28.4.4 Business Arising from the Report

Deputy Mayor Melky asked that those that initiated the petition be invited to be part of the formal consultation process.

The Mayor responded that community concerns and ideas form part of the consultation process.

Councillor Banks asked what is the length of the consultation period.

The Mayor responded that before the process commences, the community consultation plan will be delivered by the consultant. This is when those that instigated the petition will be involved.

The Deputy Mayor asked that Council work with the Todd Mall Traders Association to assist in feeding the information back through to traders.

28.4.5 CBD Revitalisation Master Plan – Stage 1 Works Tender 2022 / 06ST
Assessment Report
Report No. 84 / 23 cncl

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 4.1 – Special Confidential Meeting of Council 2 May 2023)

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

1. **That Jensen PLUS is awarded the tender for the Alice Springs CBD Revitalisation Master Plan Stage 1 Works at a cost of \$285,634.80 including GST.**
2. **That the decision in regard to the Alice Springs CBD Revitalisation Master Plan Stage 1 Works Tender 2022-06ST be moved from Confidential into Open to allow the contract to be awarded.**
3. **That Council approve the budget shortfall of \$185,634.80 and contingency of \$40,000 to be funded through three separate GL accounts, \$100,000 to be taken from Elected Members Project Budget, \$20,000 to be taken from Todd Mall Enhancements & Future Developments, and \$105,634.80 to be taken from Technical Services – Operational.**

CARRIED (22594)

28.4.6 CONFIDENTIAL – Window Treatments – Civic Centre and Chamber
Report No. 90 / 23 cncI

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.1)

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

Council approve the installation of Crimsafe on external windows of the Civic Centre covering north-facing Chamber windows and laneway windows.

CARRIED (22625)

28.4.7 CONFIDENTIAL – Shade Structures in 13 Parks
Report No. 91 / 23 cncI

(Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.3)

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the Council approve the shade structure to be installed at Finlayson Park, Gillen.

CARRIED (22626)

29 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

29.1 Mayor Paterson – Council Plans Review

Mayor Paterson asked when Council will be receiving the reviews of each of the Council plans.

The CEO responded that he and the Directors will be meeting to discuss the schedule and each six months Council will review a new plan/strategy.

30 GENERAL BUSINESS

30.1 Deputy Mayor Melky – Road Re-sealing

Deputy Mayor Melky asked that immediate attention be given to the resealing of the portion of Jane Road and the laneway off Stott Terrace

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Morris

That Council undertake a report to investigate the two unsealed roads (Jane Road and laneway off Stott Terrace) in the municipality of Alice Springs.

CARRIED (22643)

30.2 Councillor Bitar – Marquee Hire Policies and Procedures

Councillor Bitar raised concerns around a marquee that was provided to the Kilgariff playground opening without any kind of stabilizing items such as pegs and sandbags.

The CEO responded that this equipment was available and is unsure as to why it wasn't supplied.

Director Technical Services advised that its being investigated.

30.3 Councillor Banks – Exercise Equipment Shade Structures

Councillor Banks asked for a review of the efficiency of the exercise equipment and consider converting these to seating areas along with water fountains etc.

The Mayor responded that the Open Spaces Plan is being reviewed and this can form part of that discussion.

30.4 Councillor Brown – Tennis Court Resurfacing

Councillor Brown asked that Council look at financially supporting a complete resurfacing rather than patching the damaged areas.

Director Technical Services responded that Tennis Alice Springs has received funding and that Council providing the remaining funding will be reviewed at the next SFAC meeting to be held in June.

31. MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

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

32. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 27 June, 2023

33. ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN MEETING

Mayor Paterson declared the meeting closed at **11.53am.**

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

The Council stands adjourned.

CARRIED (22644)

Confirmed on 06.12.2023

CHAIRPERSON

