

MINUTES OF THE **ORDINARY** MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
22 AUGUST 2023 IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, ALICE SPRINGS

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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 **11.00am** 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, Centralian Today

PRESENT

Mayor M. Paterson (Chair)

Deputy Mayor E. Melky

Councillor M. Banks

Councillor A. Bitar

Councillor S. Brown

Councillor M. Coffey

Councillor K. Hopper

Councillor M. Liddle

Councillor G. Morris

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A. Wilsmore – Chief Executive Officer

Mr J. Andrew – Director Technical Services

Ms K. Walsh – Acting Director Community Development

Mrs N. Brennan – Acting Director Corporate Services

Mrs E. Williams – Executive Assistant (Minutes)

Mr A. Geppa – Media Officer

16. PRAYER

Pastor Gavin Brown, Baptist Church

17. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Ms. Nicole Battle – Director Community Development

18. WELCOME

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

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 25 July, 2023

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Brown

**That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 25 July, 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.**

CARRIED (22726)

21.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

21.2.1 Councillor Hopper – AFL Community Games

Councillor Hopper asked that the data following the move of the majority of games to community be presented to Elected Members once collated.

22 MAYORAL REPORT

22.1 Mayor's Report  
Report No. 149 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Brown

**That the Mayor's report be received.**

CARRIED (22727)

22.2 Business Arising from the Report  
Nil

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 Banks – LGANT Notice of Motion

23.1.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Todd Mall Traders

24. MEMORIALS – Dr. MK Turner, OAM

*Dr MK Turner, OAM was born in 1938 near the Spotted Tiger bore of Hart's Range and grew up at the Santa Teresa Mission, passed away on July 5, 2023 in Alice Springs.*

*It is a time to reflect with gratitude and joy the contribution that Dr Turner made in her incredibly busy and full life.*

*Dr Turner's achievements were considerable. She was able to get so much quality work done because she treated everything she did, especially in the field of teaching, as a sacred duty.*

*As we look back upon her life, we are reminded of the profound impact she had on all those fortunate enough to have crossed paths with her.*

*Dr Turner was not just one person doing one thing.*

*She held multiple roles as elder, custodian, healer, professor, artist, author, teacher, mentor, interpreter, linguist, community leader, advocate for social justice and most importantly, mother, grandmother, family member and friend to so many.*

*Dr Turner was a woman of strength and resilience whose heart and mind were grounded firmly in Central Australia.*

*For her, the maintenance of culture was non-negotiable. Culture defined who she was; culture made her who she was.*

*She protected it fiercely but she did not guard it jealously.*

*Dr Turner made a point of always sharing from the deep wellspring of her knowledge.*

*Her spirit was one of inclusivity and compassion, and she had a unique ability to bridge gaps and bring people together, fostering understanding and unity among people from very different backgrounds and communities.*

*Through her art, her stories, and her advocacy, Dr Turner carried forward the ancient wisdom of her ancestors, ensuring that their voices will continue being passed on into future generations.*

*Her unwavering dedication to preserving and sharing the rich traditions of her Aboriginal heritage has left a permanent mark on our world.*

*Dr Turner passionately fought for the rights of First Nations children to grow up learning their language and culture so they could be proud in their identity and strong in themselves.*

*She was a founding elder, a powerful cultural authority and board member of Children's Ground and through her vision, Dr Turner taught kids that their culture had real value.*

*She understood that if people felt proud to use their own local languages that gave those languages the best chance of survival. This was such important work.*

*In 1997, Dr Turner's dedication and service to the preservation of language and culture — and her role as an interpreter in Central Australia's First Nations communities — was recognised when she received the Medal of the Order of Australia.*

*In 2022, Dr Turner was recognised when the Batchelor Institute awarded her an Honorary Doctorate for her lifelong commitment to cultural maintenance and languages of Aboriginal people.*

*I think it is a measure of how deeply loved and respected she was that Dr Turner received a standing ovation at that event.*

*Also, in 2022, to further celebrate Dr Turner's contributions, she was honoured as Elder of the Year during the 2022 Mparntwe NAIDOC celebrations.*

*She was a powerful and persuasive speaker who taught by example. Language, she said, had to be learned by experiencing life on the land.*

*Dr Turner's legacy will endure through the lives she touched and the changes she inspired.*

*Dr Turner's infectious laughter, warm smile, and open heart welcomed all who approached her, leaving a lasting impression on many.*

*Thank you to Minister Eva Lawler for the eulogy.*

25. PETITIONS

Nil

26. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

27. FINANCE

27.1 Finance Report  
Report No. 150 / 23 cncI

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Morris

**That the report be received and noted.**

CARRIED (22728)

27.2 Business Arising from the Report

27.2.1 Councillor Coffey – Other Operating Expenses

Councillor Coffey asked why the YTD figure so high?

The Acting Director Corporate Services will investigate the figure further but advised that compared to the same time last year they are quite similar.

27.2.2 Councillor Coffey – Balance Sheet

Councillor Coffey asked why the other liabilities figure is higher than previous months.

The Acting Director Corporate Services took the question on notice.

28. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

28.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

28.1.1 CEO Report  
Report No. 151 / 23 cncI

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

**That this report be received and noted.**

CARRIED (22729)

28.1.2 Business Arising from the Report

Nil

*Councillor Banks left the Chamber at 11.30am*

*Councillor Banks returned to the Chamber at 11.31am*

28.1.3 Councillor Coffey – Tourism Central Australia

Councillor Coffey asked if Tourism Central Australia can be invited to a future forum.

The CEO advised that he would review the Forum schedule and include this item for a future date.

28.1.4 Councillor Bitar – Summer Policing Operations

Councillor Bitar asked that the CEO to invite police to present at a future Forum to discuss anti-social response plans for Summer.

The CEO advised that he would review the Forum schedule and include this item for a future date.

*Councillor Liddle left the Chamber at 11.32am*

*Councillor Liddle returned to the Chamber at 11.34am*

28.1.5 Election of Deputy Mayor and Elected Member Committee Appointments  
Report No. 158 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

1. **That Elected Members consider alternate approaches to the position of Deputy Mayor and for this to be subject to formal resolution.**

LOST

Moved – Mayor Paterson

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

2. **That an Elected Member be appointed to be the Deputy Mayor for the year to end August 2024 in accordance with Section 59(2), Section 61(3) and Section 62(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and with council policy 'Appointment of Deputy Mayor'.**
3. **That Elected Members be appointed on Council Advisory Committees and as representatives of Council on external committees for the year to end August 2024, as per the terms outlined in Attachment A and in accordance with council policy 'Appointment of Representatives to Council Committees'.**

CARRIED (22730)

*Director Technical Services left the Chamber at 11.44am*

*Director Technical Services returned to the Chamber at 11.45am*

Discussion was held around the rotation cycle and other options being held over until the commencement of the 15<sup>th</sup> Council.

28.1.6 Business Arising from the Report

Deputy Mayor Position	Council or External Committee	Elected Member (Incumbent)	Nomination Mover / Second	Elected
<b>Deputy Mayor</b>	Council	Deputy Mayor Melky	Nominated: Councillor Morris Moved: Councillor Morris Seconded: Mayor Paterson  Nominated: Councillor Bitar Moved: Councillor Banks Seconded: Mayor Paterson	<b>Deputy Mayor Bitar</b>
Internal Consultative Committee	Council or External Committee	Elected Member (Incumbent)	Nomination Mover / Second	Elected
<b>Risk Management and Audit Committee (Corporate Services)</b> Mayor + 2 Councillors (Independent Chair) (meets quarterly)	Council	Mayor Paterson Councillor Bitar Councillor Coffey	Nominated: Councillor Hopper Moved: Councillor Coffey Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bitar  Nominated: Councillor Coffey Moved: Deputy Mayor Bitar Seconded: Councillor Brown	<b>Councillor Hopper Councillor Coffey</b>
Advisory Committee	Council or External Committee	Elected Member (Incumbent)	Nomination Mover / Second	Elected
<b>Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (Technical Services)</b> Mayor + 3 Councillors (meets the last Thursday of every second month at 12:15pm)	Council	Mayor Paterson Councillor Brown Councillor Coffey Councillor Liddle	Nominated: Councillor Coffey Moved: Councillor Hopper Seconded: Councillor Morris  Nominated: Councillor Brown Moved: Deputy Mayor Bitar Seconded: Councillor Hopper  Nominated: Councillor Morris Moved: Councillor Coffey Seconded: Councillor Liddle	<b>Councillor Coffey Councillor Brown Councillor Morris</b>

External Committee ASTC Representative Required	Council or External Committee	Elected Member (Incumbent)	Nomination Mover / Second	Elected
<b>Alice Springs Town Council and Tangentyere Council Steering Committee</b> (MoU) Elected Members (meetings as required)	Council Committee combined with Tangentyere Council	Councillor Hopper Councillor Liddle Councillor Coffey		<b>Elected Members</b>
<b>Alice Springs Town Council &amp; Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (LAAC) Partnership Committee</b> (Agreement) Elected Members (meetings as required)	Council Committee combined with LAAC	Councillor Bitar Councillor Hopper Councillor Liddle		<b>Elected Members</b>
<b>Outback Highway Development Council Inc (Outback Way)</b> Mayor + 1 Councillor (CEO is alternate) Annual membership AGM September 2023 (meets monthly by Zoom & once a year attendance at AGM)	External	Mayor Paterson Councillor Coffey	Nominated: Councillor Coffey Moved: Councillor Hopper Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bitar	<b>Councillor Coffey</b>
<b>LGANT General Representative</b> 2 Council Representatives (Executive meetings held monthly) (2 General meetings per year) (AGM November 2023) Alice Springs Town Council may remove or appoint at anytime	External	Mayor Matt Paterson Councillor Bitar	Nominated: Councillor Coffey Moved: Councillor Coffey Seconded: Councillor Melky	<b>Councillor Coffey</b>
External Committee ASTC Representative Required	Council or External Committee	Elected Member (Incumbent)	Nomination Mover / Second	Elected
<b>RedHOT Arts Central Australia Inc.</b> 1 Councillor + alternate nomination 3-year term (meets monthly – 3rd Wednesday of month)	External	Councillor Kim Hopper	N/A	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Tourism Central Australia</b> (meets monthly)	External	Mayor Matt Paterson (ex-officio role)	N/A	<b>N/A</b>



<b>Development Consent Authority</b> (meets monthly)	External	Mayor Paterson Councillor Bitar Councillor Brown (communitiy member)	Nominated: Councillor Hopper Moved: Councillor Hopper Seconded: Councillor Banks  Nominated: Deputy Mayor Bitar Moved: Deputy Mayor Bitar Seconded: Councillor Melky  Nominated: Councillor Coffey Moved: Deputy Mayor Bitar Seconded: Councillor Hopper  Nominated: Mayor Paterson Moved: Councillor Banks Seconded: Councillor Hopper	<b>Councillor Hopper</b> <b>Deputy Mayor Bitar</b> <b>Councillor Coffey</b> <b>Mayor Paterson</b>
<b>External Committee</b> <b>Other</b>	<b>Council</b> <b>or</b> <b>External</b> <b>Committee</b>	<b>Elected Member</b> <b>(Incumbent)</b>	<b>Nomination</b> <b>Mover / Second</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Alice Springs Art Foundation</b> 1 Council nomination (meets first Monday of the month at 5:30pm)	External	Councillor Allison Bitar	Nominated: Deputy Mayor Bitar Moved: Councillor Hopper Seconded: Councillor Coffey	<b>Deputy Mayor Bitar</b>
<b>50+ Community Centre Committee</b> 1 Council Representative (meets monthly)	External	Mayor Paterson	Nominated: Mayor Paterson Moved: Councillor Brown Seconded: Councillor Coffey	<b>Mayor Paterson</b>
<b>National Indigenous Australians Agency</b> <b>Aboriginal Leadership Group</b> 1 Council Representative (indigenous identified) 1-year term (meeting frequency TBC)	External	Councillor Liddle	N/A	N/A
Heritage Council 1 Council Representative	External	Councillor Liddle	N/A	N/A
<b>Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council</b> 1 Council Representative (meets quarterly on a Tuesday from 9am – 10am in person (Darwin) or via TEAMS)	External	N/A	Nominated: Councillor Banks Moved: Councillor Banks Seconded: Councillor Coffey	<b>Councillor Banks</b>

28.1.7 CEO Report

Report No. 148 / 23 cncI

*Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.1.3*

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

1. **That owners or occupiers of the following premises be issued a regulatory notice with a 30-day notice period to comply for visual pollution due to the land and structures being unsightly under s283 of the Local Government Act (2019):**
2. **Lot 349 – 43 Stuart Highway, Alice Springs NT 0870**
3. **Lots 666, 667 & 668 – 43, 45 & 47 Gap Road, Alice Springs NT 0870**
4. **Lot 8555 – 75 Todd Street, Alice Springs NT 0870**
5. **That owners or occupiers of Lot 8555 – 75 Todd Street, Alice Springs NT 0870 be issued a regulatory notice with a 30-day notice period to comply to mitigate hazards under s284 of the Local Government Act (2019) that requires the removal of fencing and railings as they are a safety hazard due to their rotted nature and potential to be used as a blunt instrument.**
6. **That owners or occupiers of the following premises be served notice to remove graffiti from public view by painting or restoring the surface within 14 days under S42 of the Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-Laws 2009.**
7. **Lot 349 – 43 Stuart Highway, Alice Springs NT 0870**
8. **Lot 8555 – 75 Todd Street, Alice Springs NT 0870**
9. **That this resolution be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22721)

28.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil

28.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

28.3.1 Community Development Report to Council

Report No. 152 / 23 cncI

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

**That the Community Development Report be received and noted.**

CARRIED (22731)

28.3.2 Business Arising from the Report

Nil

28.3.3 Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASALC) Plant Room Upgrade  
Report No. 154 / 23 cncI

*Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.3.1*

Moved – Councillor Morris

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

1. **That the Council approve the tendering of the ASALC pool plant room upgrade.**
2. **That the resolution be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22722)

28.4 TECHNICAL SERVICES

28.4.1 Technical Services Update to Council  
Report No. 153 / 23 cncI

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Brown

**That this report be received and noted.**

CARRIED (22732)

28.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.4.2.1 Councillor Brown – Demolition Waste

Councillor Brown asked if the tonnages of demolition waste from remote communities was being tracked.

Director Technical Services took the question on notice.

*Councillor Hopper left the Chamber at 12.21pm  
Councillor Hopper returned at 12.23pm*

28.4.2.2 Councillor Brown – Energy Data

Councillor Brown asked around the accuracy of the energy data contained in the Environment Officer report.

Director Technical Services took the question on notice. Officers are currently working with suppliers to obtain the data electronically rather than through paper-based means, which has been identified in the report as containing inaccuracies.

*Councillor Morris left the Chamber at 12.25pm*

*Councillor Morris returned to the Chamber at 12.28pm*

28.4.2.3 Mayor Paterson – Development Applications

Mayor Paterson asked how many development submissions are provided to Council for comment before going to the Development Consent Authority.

Director Technical Services took the question on notice.

Mayor Paterson requested that a review on the compliance of the information presented at the June 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council (Resolution 22247) that determined the rules for development applications and what needs to be escalated to Elected Members.

Director Technical Services took the question on notice.

28.4.3 Greening Strategy Endorsement

Report No. 157 / 23 cncl

*Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.3*

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Morris

1. **That Council award O2 Landscape Architecture with the contract to develop the Alice Springs Town Council Greening Strategy for total cost of \$186,560, inclusive of 10% contingency.**
2. **That the resolution be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22724)

29. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

29.1 Councillor Hopper – Council Advertising

Councillor Hopper asked around the legislative requirements for advertising.

CEO responded that the Local Government Act requires Council to publish certain notifications such as tenders, rates etc.

Other items can be advertised in other forms as deemed necessary.

Councillor Hopper went on to ask around the buy local parameters within the Procurement Policy.

Acting Director Corporate Services took the question on notice.

29.2 Councillor Brown – Cemetery Use

Councillor Brown has received complaints from the community around dog owners using the Garden Cemetery as an off-leash dog park.

Director Technical Services responded that he will obtain information from the Ranger Unit.

30. GENERAL BUSINESS

30.1 Councillor Banks – LGANT Call for Motions

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded –

**That LGANT establish a committee tasked with facilitating interagency stakeholder meetings aimed at developing regional solutions towards weeds, fire, and feral animal mitigation.**

DEFERRED

Councillor Banks will provide further detail on the motion and present at the September Ordinary meeting of Council.

30.2 Councillor Melky – Todd Mall Traders & CBD Revitalisation

Councillor Melky encouraged CBD traders and the Todd Mall Traders to engage and contribute to the consultation process regarding the CBD revitalisation.

30.3 Councillor Coffey – Forum presentation by Tourism Central Australia

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Brown

**That Alice Springs Town Council invite TCA to a future Forum to discuss the visitor economy, including visiting family and friends of professional staff employed in health, education and emergency services.**

CARRIED (22733)

31. MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

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

32. NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday 26 September, 2023**

33. CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETING

Mayor Paterson declared the meeting closed at **1.03pm.**

Moved – Councillor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

**The Council meeting be closed.**

CARRIED (22734)

Confirmed on 06.12.2023

CHAIRPERSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Melky', is written over a horizontal line.