



MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2012

AT

6.00 pm

Council Chambers Civic Centre
Stuart Highway, Katherine

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT
THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2012 AT 6.00 PM**

1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **PRESENT**

Mayor Anne Shepherd
Deputy Mayor Lis Clark
Alderman Chrissy Harris
Alderman Jodi Locke
Alderman Steven Rose

IN ATTENDANCE Mr David Laughner – Chief Executive Officer
Mr Warwick Jack – Works Manager
Mrs Alice Anastacio – Finance Manager
Mrs Sophie Henderson – Administration Manager
8 x Members of the Katherine Community
1 x Media Representative from the Katherine Times

3. **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Members Leave of Absence
and Apologies

MOVED: Locke / Harris

That the apology of Alderman Ford and Alderman Coutts be accepted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

4. **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes

MOVED: Clark / Locke

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 24 January 2012 be
confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

5. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest
and Declared Interest

Nil

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Business Arising from Previous Minutes
Nil

7. MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered

The Mayor raised the following issues:

- Reminded attendees that nominations for the upcoming Local Government Election close at 12 noon on Thursday the 1 March 2012.
- Advised that the final Ordinary Council Meeting prior to the Local Government Election is scheduled for Tuesday the 13 March 2012.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Correspondence and Documents Tabled

Nil

9. QUESTIONS

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

9.1 With Notice

Nil

9.2 Without Notice

Nil

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

REPORT OF OFFICERS

11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2012

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Reports

MOVED: Locke / Clark

That the report of the Chief Executive Officer for the month of January 2012 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Deputy Mayor Clark highlighted the increased takings at the Visitor Information Centre for January 2012. Deputy Mayor Clark noted that this is a good sign for the upcoming tourist season. The Chief Executive Officer advised that the increase in takings for January 2012 were probably due to the derailment at Edith Falls.

11.2 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE WORKS MANAGER FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2012

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works Manager Reports

MOVED: Rose / Locke

That the report of the Works Manager for the month of January 2012 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

Alderman Rose noted that the amount of rubbish being collected by Council's Emu Bob is decreasing. The Mayor advised that this was probably due to the commencement of the container deposit scheme.

11.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – JANUARY 2012

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Harris / Locke

That the Finance Report for the month of January 2012 prepared by the Finance Manager as at 7 February 2012 be received and adopted.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

11.4 SALE OF LOT 2787

File: Lot 2787

MOVED: Harris / Rose

1. That Council authorise the Mayor and CEO to negotiate the sale of Lot 2787 at a price based on the valuation.
2. That the Mayor and CEO be authorised to sign and seal documentation to affect the sale.

Alderman Locke requested an amendment to the above motion. The amendment is to include:

That Council does not authorise the sale of Lot 2787.

The Mayor advised that this motion was not acceptable as it negated the original motion.

Alderman Locke commented on the need to keep the land to assist Council in the future in order to engage staff.

The Mayor noted that the property was not well positioned and an awkward shape.

The Chief Executive Officer noted that the land had not been identified for a specific use at this time and Council needs to resolve the current situation. If, in the future, Council requires land for a specific purpose Council can always purchase at the time.

Deputy Mayor Clark noted that her understanding in regards to the usage of the land was that it was to build a new house for the Chief Executive Officer that was out of the flood plain.

Alderman Rose concurred with the Mayor in regards to position and shape of the land. Alderman Rose noted that Council could possibly receive a greater return if they waited for further development around the land.

MOVED: Rose / Shepherd

Alderman Rose requested an amendment to the motion to include that Council hold the land for a further 12 months and then proceed to sale.

AMENDED MOTION

MOVED: Harris / Rose

1. That Council hold the land for a further 12 months and then authorise the Mayor and CEO to negotiate the sale of Lot 2787 at a price based on the valuation.
2. That the Mayor and CEO be authorised to sign and seal documentation to affect the sale.

CARRIED: 3 / 2

Deputy Mayor Clark and Alderman Locke requested that their vote against the motion be recorded.

11.5 SWIMMING POOL – HOURS OF OPERATION

File: Property Management / Asset Register / Swimming Pool

MOVED: Harris / Locke

That Council accepts and adopts the proposed change of hours of operation for the pool.

CARRIED: 5 / 0

11.6 CORRESPONDENCE HANDLING POLICY

File: Human Resource Management / Policies and Procedures

MOVED: Rose /

Alderman Rose requested an amended motion be put forward that Items 11.6 and 11.7 be removed from the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda:

LAPSED for lack of a seconder

MOVED: Locke / Harris

That Council adopts the policy document "Receipt and Recording of all Correspondence".

CARRIED: 4 / 1

Alderman Rose queried the process being followed at this Ordinary Council Meeting. Alderman Rose noted that Council has an Administrative Review Committee who he is a member of and believes that items 11.6 and 11.7 should have been approved through the Administrative Review Committee prior to being placed on the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that items 11.6 and 11.7 are consistent with Council's policy framework.

The Mayor advised that her understanding of the Administrative Review Committee was that it did not serve this function.

Alderman Rose requested that his vote against the motion be recorded.

11.7 ELECTED MEMBER INTERACTION WITH STAFF

File: Human Resource Management / Policies and Procedures

MOVED: Harris / Locke

That Council adopts the policy document "Elected Member Information and Interaction with Staff".

CARRIED: 4 / 1

Alderman Rose requested that his vote against the motion be recorded.

12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

File: Community Relations / Committees / Elected Member Representatives on Committees

The following meetings/activities were attended by the Elected Members:

Deputy Mayor Clark

Dinner with the Australia Day Ambassador of the Year
YMCA Committee Meeting
Art & Cultural Committee Meeting
YMCA Garden – Working Bees x 2
Come & Try Sports Day
Growing Katherine Business Meeting
Australia Day

Alderman Rose

Australia Day
30 Year Strategic Planning Workshops x 2
Select Committee Inquiry into Youth Suicide
Growing Katherine Business Meeting
Chamber of Commerce Committee Meeting
Tindal Expo
NT Employment Strategy Discussion
Information Session for Council Elections
Teleconference with Telstra Countrywide NT – Director Brian O'Keefe
ABC Country Hour 10th Anniversary Event

Alderman Locke

Shine Exhibition
Australia Day
Katherine Cultural Precinct Committee Meeting
Museum Meeting
Come & Try Sports Day
30 Year Strategic Planning Workshops x 2
Simmone Croft Book Launch
Tindal Expo
Information Session for Council Elections
Clyde Fenton Primary School Council Meeting
Katherine High School Council Meeting

Alderman Harris
Australia Day
Showground User Group Meeting
30 Year Strategic Planning Workshop

13. LATE AGENDA

Nil

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

Alderman Rose – NT Employment Strategy Meeting – the housing shortage within Katherine was commented upon at this meeting as being an issue for the economic growth of Katherine.

15. PETITIONS

Nil

16. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

File: Local Governance / Council Meeting / Questions from the Public

Mrs Jill Kelly – sought clarification from the Works Manager regarding the regularity of slashing of the off the leash areas in Katherine and the wording in a section of the Works Manager's Monthly Report that stated:

Council contract Jason Hohn was required to return to Lansdowne Road and spray furniture which had been missed.

The Works Manager advised that furniture referred to poles, culverts, etc.

The Works Manager advised that the off the leash areas in Katherine are slashed approximately four times per wet season.

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

18. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting was closed at 6.27pm.

Anne Shepherd
MAYOR OF KATHERINE