



MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON  
THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 10:30AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:53AM

**2 WELCOME**

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chair Sarah Gallagher

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /  
NOMINATIONS**

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Sarah Gallagher, Member Garnet Djana, Member Hilda Bert, Member Jonathan Doolan, Member Jacob Yarma and Member Joy Kunia

Councillors:

President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees:

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, June Crabb – Governance Coordinator, Jessica Kragh – MacYouth Manager, James Walsh – Area Manager, Lucie McKean – Council Services Coordinator, Jake Potter – Fleet Services Manager, Yarran Cavalier – Coordinator Community Services, Ruth Tahere – Manager Projects and Infrastructure (via Teams)

Guests:

Katharine O'Donoghue – Member for Gwoja, Jessica Scrutton and Zyeallah Fenton – Woods – Representatives for DCMC all attended via Teams

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

Member Naphtali Scobie

Absentees:

Cr Marlene Abbott and Cr Abraham Poulson

### **3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES**

**ARLA2024-41 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher /Garnet Djana)**

That members:

- a) noted the attendance to the meeting;
- b) accepted the apology received from Member Naphtali Scobie; and
- c) recorded absences without notice of Cr's Marlene Abbott and Abraham Poulson.

### **3.3 Resignations**

**NIL**

### **3.4 Terminations**

**NIL**

### **3.5 Nominations**

**NIL**

## **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**ARLA2024-42 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher /Garnet Djana)**

That the members noted the Council Code of Conduct.

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**ARLA2024-43 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jacob Yarma)**

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Local Authority meeting held 12 June 2024 be adopted as a resolution of Areyonga Local Authority.

## **6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATIONS OF GENERAL BUSINESS AND NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED**

**ARLA2024-44 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher /Johnathan Doolan)**

That the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

### **6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**ARLA2024-45 RESOLVED (Jacob Yarma/Johnathan Doolan)**

That members raised the following matters for General Council Business.

- Council workers – hours of work
- Replacement of Wheelie bins

These matters were addressed as operational for Council Services to follow up on at this point.

### 6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

**ARLA2024-46 RESOLVED (Jacob Yarma/Johnathan Doolan)**

That members raised the following matters for General Non-Council Business.

- Inadequate fencing around houses and pest control  
MRC's CEO advised that she will follow up with Housing for an update.

## 7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

### 7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

**ARLA2024-47 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Joy Kunia)**

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest policy; and
- b) did not declare a conflict of interest.

## 8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

**NIL**

## 9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 9.1 ACTION REGISTER

**ARLA2024-48 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Joy Kunia)**

That the Local Authority notes and approves the removal of both completed actions.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet (DCM&C) and invested in projects to benefit and improve the community.

Examples of *acceptable* purposes for expenditure include:

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. For example - office upgrades, fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. For example - trailers, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures /stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community sporting facilities. For example upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation.

- Festivals or other events – but must only be conducted within a council's own Local Authority area.

**The Local Authority has committed all available funds to projects and there is nil balance remaining to allocate.**

**ARLA2024-49 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$35,283.42 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG
- b) accepted the 2024/2025 funding allocation of \$30,700.00, noting that these funds must be spent before the end of June 2025
- c) Closed the following projects:
  - 2111 – Upgrade 4 x LED lights and repair 4 x broken LED lights, returning \$22,014.36 to unallocated funds, noting that the project will be covered by an NTG grant.
  - 2113 – Install Shade Shelter and water tank at football oval, returning \$5,657.70 to unallocated funds.
- d) noted the progress on their projects and kept open:
  - 2114 – Install 1 x GFS 200 Solar light, noting that the Civil team may install
  - 2116 – Drainage around the Basketball Court
  - 2118 – Fencing and repairs at playground
- e) Created two new projects:
  - allocated \$10,000.00 towards a Water Bubbler placed near the Bus Stop
  - allocated \$6,000.00 towards a Water trailer with an IBC and tap

**9.3 DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Each financial year, MRC grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority.

The Local Authority decides how best to commit these funds that will benefit the Community and to improve Community development.

Discretionary Funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.

**ARLA2024-50 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)**

That the Authority:

- a) noted the spending of the 2023/2024 Discretionary funds;
- b) that on behalf of Council, the CEO made the following decision:
  - MRC to clear the deduction of \$2,601.89 from the 2024/2025 Discretionary funds and return these funds to the Authority, noting that the Authority should not be penalised for the invoice being received after the end June.
  - noted that the Authority's approved 2024/2025 funding allocation was \$4,000.00
- c) Members agreed to the allocations as follows:

- \$1,000.00 to purchase indoor cleaning supplies for each tenanted house;
- \$1,000.00 towards a Community Christmas BBQ at the Basketball Court on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- \$1,000.00 towards an end of School Celebration for the children to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## **10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Areyonga across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

#### **ARLA2024-51 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Authority noted and accepted the Council Services report.**

### **10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

#### **ARLA2024-52 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/ Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.**

### **10.3 TECHNICAL SERVICES LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on Technical Services program..

#### **ARLA2024-53 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/ Jacob Yarma)**

**That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Technical Services Report**

### **10.4 PEOPLE AND CAPABILITIES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides the Local Authority members an insight into MacDonnell Regional Council's staffing diversity and employee distribution among communities.

#### **ARLA2024-54 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Jacob Yarma)**

**That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Peoples and Capabilities report as at the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024.**

## **11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **11.1 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This expenditure report shows spending until 31 August 2024 in the Local Authority community.

**ARLA2024-55 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Joy Kunia)**

**That the Local Authority noted and accepted the expenditure report as at 31 July 2024.**

**12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2**

**12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Under item 6.2, members have the opportunity to raise matters of General Business that are discussed at this report.

**ARLA2024-56 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/ Jacob Yarma)**

**That the Local Authority noted the matters raised were discussed at item 6.2**

**NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3**

**12.2 OTHER NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this paper is to note and discuss the matters raised at item 6.3 and to be informed of any updates to the actions relating to the services provided by the Northern Territory Government.

**ARLA2024-57 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/ Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority notes and discusses the matters raised at item 6.3.**

- **Members have mentioned that the fences around the houses need repairing / replacing as they are not suitable for animal safety/ security.**
- **The CEO to follow up with NTG housing to attend an LA meeting to discuss issues that have been raised during meetings.**
- **Zyeallah Fenton-Woods from DCMC spoke to Belinda about improving the Wi-Fi and Mobile connection within the community and how council can assist NTG with this process.**

**13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 21 NOVEMBER 2024**

**14 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:38 pm.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the unconfirmed minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday, 12 September 2024.