



MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON  
THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 10:30 AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:33am

**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 Hilda Bert, Member Jonathan Doolan, Member Joy Kunia and Member Jacob Carol

Councillors:

President Roxanne and Councillor Abraham Poulson

Council Employees:

Ken Satour – Area Manager, Libby Taylor – Manager Contracts and Projects, Liz Scott – Manager Community Safety, Mark O'Brien – Area Manager, Rajan Khadka – Youth Coordinator and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance

Via Teams - Kitty Comerford - Manager Housing and Katie Fuller – HR Operations Manager

Guests:

Nil

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

Councillor Marlene Abbott

Absentees:

Member Garnet Djana and Member Naphtali Scobie

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

**ARLA2024-058 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)**

**That members:**

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) accepted the apologies for this meeting; and
- c) recorded the first absences without notice of Members Naphtali Scobie and Garnet Djana.

### **3.3 Resignations**

**NIL**

### **3.4 Terminations**

**NIL**

### **3.5 Nominations**

**NIL**

## **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**ARLA2024-059 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting noted the Council Code of Conduct.**

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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

**ARLA2024-060 RESOLVED(Jonathan Doolan/Jacob Carol)**

**That the Areyonga Local Authority adopted the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 12 September 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**

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

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

**ARLA2024-061 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)**

**That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.**

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

**ARLA2024-062 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)**

**That members raised matters to discuss in General Council Business as follows:**

- **MRC staff attending LA meetings.**  
**Members requested that Managers send a representative to the Local Authority meetings if they are unable to attend.**
- **Advised that the Rubbish truck was currently being repaired and would be returned as soon as possible.**

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

**ARLA2024-063 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)**

Members provided notification of matters raised in General Non-Council Business as follows:

- House on top of the hill
- Dogs biting kids
- Housing – maintenance and repair issues not being addressed.

### **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

#### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**ARLA2024-064 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Hilda Bert)**

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

#### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

**ARLA2024-065 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Hilda Bert)**

That the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

### **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

#### **8.1 PRESENTATION FROM THE WATARRKA FAMILY GROUP TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Watarrka Family Group want to install bench seating along the boundary to provide seating for funerals. They also want to extend the concrete area under the concert stage in the park next to the Church.

The Group is seeking LA approval for the location and the style and will fund the project using the Watarrka money through Central Land Council's Community Development Plan.

**ARLA2024-066 RESOLVED(Joy Kunia/Abraham Poulson)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Representative from CLC was an apology to the meeting;
- b) noted that the Representative from the Watarrka Family Group did not attend the meeting;
- c) discussed and agreed to support the proposal to install bench seating along the boundary and to extend the concrete area under the concert stage in the park next to the church; and
- d) noted that funding and works would come under Central Land Council's Development Plan.

## **9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER**

#### **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. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds/shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAPF has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

It is important to note that 'at risk funds' are funds that may include unallocated funds and funds allocated to projects, however, remains unspent.

#### **ARLA2024-067 RESOLVED (Jacob Carol/Jonathan Doolan)**

##### **That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted that \$3,151.78 are funds at risk as at 30 September 2024
- b) noted that \$42,372.10 are funds available to spend
- c) noted the progress on the current projects as follows:
  - 2112 – Water Bubbler, noting that this will be installed by the Plumber
  - 2114 – Install Solar light
  - 2116 – Drainage around Basketball Court, noting that some of the suggestions included cementing in park furniture to deflect the course of water
  - 2117 – Water Trailer until it is registered
  - 2118 – Fencing and repairs at the Playground.
- e) moved Park furniture to the wishlist; and
- f) created two new Projects:
  - 1 x Bin Trailer, allocating \$18,000.00
  - 1 x Solar light to install at the entrance of community, allocating \$4,000.00

## **9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY 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 and 30 June.

### **ARLA2024-068 RESOLVED(Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **noted that Council had reinstated \$2,601.89 for reallocation;**
- b) **discussed the spending of their current commitments and made the following decisions:**
  - **noted that members agreed to combine the funds of the Christmas Community BBQ and the end of School BBQ to a Community celebration, noting the allocation as \$2,000.00**
  - **agreed that Chairperson Sarah Gallagher will organise the shopping for the Celebration**
  - **noted that Council Services requested notice be provided so that the BBQ trailer could be set up**
- c) **allocated \$1,000.00 towards Power Cards for each occupied house; and**
- d) **noted that the funds must be spent and goods received by 30 June 2025.**

## **9.3 PEOPLE & CAPABILITIES REPORT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Authority members insight into MacDonnell Regional Council staffing vacancies to help generate local community engagement and direct involvement in supporting Council's strategic goals of Developing Communities and being a Supportive Organisation.

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

### **ARLA2024-069 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Peoples and Capabilities report for the Community of Areyonga.**

## **10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES AREYONGA LA REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### **ARLA2024-070 RESOLVED(Sarah Gallagher/Hilda Bert)**

**That the Local Authority of Areyonga noted and accepted the attached report.**

### **10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged and Disability, Community Safety, Children's and Youth Services.

#### **ARLA2024-071 RESOLVED(Joy Kunia/Hilda Bert)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **noted and accepted the Community Services report; and**
- b) **accepted the Youth Report tabled at the meeting.**

## **11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

### **11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31 OCT. 2024**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 October 2024 in the Local Authority Community.

#### **ARLA2024-072 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Joy Kunia)**

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

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

### **12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to give Members the opportunity to discuss the matters raised at item 6.2.

#### **ARLA2024-073 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Joy Kunia)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **noted and discussed the matters raised at item 6.2; and**
- b) **advised that the community road at the turnoff needed grading.**

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

### **13.1 OTHER NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet provides any necessary updates in regards to Northern Territory Government services.

At the beginning of the meeting, under item 6.3, members of the Areyonga Local Authority

have an opportunity to provide notification of matters they wish to discuss in General Non-Council Business.

**ARLA2024-074 RESOLVED(Jacob Carol/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Areyonga Local Authority:**

- a) **noted and discussed the Non-Council Business items raised at Item 6.3 as follows:**
  - **House on the hill**  
Members wanted to know what was happening to the house.
  - **Dogs biting/attacking kids and residents**  
Requesting that the Police be informed of the dog attacks.
  - **Noted that no clear responses had been received from housing regarding maintenance issues not being attended to;**
- b) **noted that CLC are conducting an audit on the situation with the horses;**
- c) **requested if the Mereenie Loop road would be undergoing further works;**
- d) **requested what alternative water sources were available for community; and**
- e) **noted no updates and progress on actions from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet from the previous meetings.**

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6 FEBRUARY 2025**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 1:05 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 21 November 2024 and are UNCONFIRMED.