



Mission

East Arnhem Regional Council is dedicated to promoting the power of people, protection of community and respect for cultural diversity in the East Arnhem Regional Council. It does this by forming partnerships, building community capacity, advocating for regional and local issues, maximising service effectiveness and linking people with information.

Core Values

Respect
Professionalism
Human Dignity
Organisational Growth
Equity
Community

MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

24 February 2022

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON
THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10:00AM

Meeting Opening: The meeting commenced at 10:16AM.

Prayer: President Lapulung Dhamarrandji performed a prayer.

In Attendance:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Deputy President Gordon Walsh, Councillors Jason Mirritjawuy, Bobby M Wunungmurra, Constantine Mamarika, Robert Yawarngu, Kaye Thurlow, Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra and Joe Djakala.

East Arnhem Regional Council Officers:

Dale Keehne – CEO, Shane Marshall – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services, Andrew Walsh – Director Community Development and Michael Freeman – Corporate Services Manager, Natasha Jackson - Strategic Project Coordinator/Acting Tenancy Manager.

Minute Taker – Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning and Policy Officer.

Attendance

2.1 DECLARATION OF MEMBERSHIP AND ELECTED MEMBERS ATTENDANCE

SUMMARY:

This report is also to table, for the Council's record, any absences, apologies and requests for leave of absence received from the Council Members and what absences that the Council gives permission for.

This report is to also provide the process for the newly elected members to acknowledge their role as an elected member, the code of conduct, and sign their declaration.

001/2022 **RESOLVED (Constantine Mamarika/Jason Mirritjawuy)**

That Council:

- (a) Acknowledges, and welcomes the return of Joe Djakala and Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra as Councillors of East Arnhem Regional Council. Both the newly elected Councillors noted the Declaration of Office which will be formally signed in person at a later meeting.**
- (b) Notes the absence of Councillors Evelynna Dhamarrandji, David Djalangi, Banambi Wunungmurra and Yirmal Marika.**
- (c) Notes the written apology received from Councillor Yirmal Marika and the verbal apology received from Councillor Evelynna Dhamarrandji.**
- (d) Notes Councillors Evelynna Dhamarrandji and David Djalangi are absent with permission of the Council. Council would like a letter to be written to Councillor Evelynna Dhamarrandji and Councillor David Djalangi informing them about the need to attend Council meetings and the consequences if they fail to do so.**
- (e) Determines Councillors Yirmal Marika and Banambi Wunungmurra are absent without permission of the Council under Section 47(1)(o) of the Act.**
- (f) Determines that a written apology must be provided if a Councillor is unable to attend a Council meeting, for Council's consideration.**

Declaration of Registered Interest Register

3.1 DECLARATION OF REGISTERED INTEREST

SUMMARY:

Elected Members are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration by Council at a meeting of the Council.

002/2022 **RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra)**

That Council notes the Conflict of Interest and Related Parties Register.

Previous Council Minutes

4.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16 DECEMBER 2021

003/2022 **RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Robert Yawarngu)**

That the minutes be taken as read and accepted as a true record of the Council meeting held on 16 December 2021.

4.2 UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2022

004/2022 **RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Gordon Walsh)**

That the minutes be taken as read and accepted as a true record of the Special Council meeting held on 25 January 2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

6.1 CEO REPORT

SUMMARY:

This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

005/2022 **RESOLVED (Constantine Mamarika/Gordon Walsh)**

That Council notes the CEO Report.

6.2 REAL OUTCOMES THROUGH GENUINE RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE, VOICE AND CAPACITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND REGIONAL COUNCILS.

SUMMARY:

The achievement of real change and outcomes out of the range of Northern Territory and Australian Government policy reform processes is arguably linked to the genuine recognition of the role, voice and capacity of Local Authorities and Regional Councils.

006/2022 **RESOLVED** (Kaye Thurlow/Joe Djakala)

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges and expresses its gratitude for the unanimous endorsement at the Australian Local Government Association 2021 National General Assembly that the National General Assembly calls on the Federal, State and Territory Governments to commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as an Aboriginal controlled entity across Australia at all levels of Government. Indigenous Local Government being a Local Government Council with a majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians.**
- 2. Calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to recognise East Arnhem and all other regional councils in the Northern Territory as Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government Councils, including the formal role of Local Authorities under the Northern Territory Local Government Act and the inherent links to and alignment with traditional Aboriginal authority, culture and practice, to include the voices of all Clans, Traditional Owners, as well as non Traditional Owners, young, and all community and homeland members, at a local and regional level. This recognition needs to include:**
 - a) the direct inclusion and participation of East Arnhem and other regional Councils in the Northern Territory, with complementary representation of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, in significant reform processes including the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan, Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making and the Australian Government's Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice.**
 - b) The review of official guidelines of the Australian and Northern Territory Governments and agencies, to enable Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government Councils to apply for and be provided funding to help address significant social, economic, environmental and cultural needs.**
- 3. This motion be put to the next General Meeting of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, for consideration and endorsement of fellow Councils, with an additional motion for the recognition of the Municipal Councils of the Northern Territory in significant reform processes including the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan, Local Decision Making and the Federal Indigenous Voice, in acknowledgement of the significant number of Aboriginal people who live in the areas for which they have responsibility, and their role and capacity to support their well being.**
- 4. The key points of this motion be put to the Australian Government Elected representatives, and representatives of the opposition, seeking their response and commitments ahead of the upcoming federal election.**

TECHNICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORTS

7.1 DRAFT BY-LAW COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled to update Council members on the draft by-law community consultations days held late last year across all East Arnhem communities as an overview on community responses for consideration if any additions or changes be considered to the draft By-Law directions based on the responses.

007/2022 RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Bobby M Wunungmurra)

That Council:

- a) Notes the Draft By-Law Consultation process and comments.**
- b) Considers any of the associated community feedback for inclusion in the draft directions.**
- c) Approves the final directions post consultation to be presented to the Minister for consideration and approval.**

7.2 WASTE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES UPDATE

SUMMARY:

This report is to provide a summary update of works and projects being implemented by the Waste Services Department.

008/2022 RESOLVED (Jason Mirritjawuy/Joe Djakala)

That Council notes the Waste and Environmental Services report.

7.3 INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report provides Council an update on current projects within the Information, Communications and Technology Department.

009/2022 RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Joe Djakala)

That Council notes the Information, Communications and Technology report.

7.4 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT UPDATE

SUMMARY:

This report is table for Council for an update on the Animal Program delivery and staffing changes.

010/2022 RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Bobby M Wunungmurra)

That Council notes the Animal Management Update report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

8.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

SUMMARY:

This report is to provide information on the progress, successes, challenges and future opportunities of the Council's Community Development Directorate.

011/2022 **RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Bobby M Wunungmurra)**

That Council notes the Community Development Report.

8.2 EAST ARNHAM COVID - 19 REPORT

SUMMARY:

This East Arnhem COVID – 19 Report is to update the Elected Members on the current COVID – 19 situation in East Arnhem and provide an opportunity for reflection and further discussion on the situation, and the work undertaken or assistance provided to the response by East Arnhem Regional Council.

012/2022 **RESOLVED (Jason Mirritjawuy/Constantine Mamarika)**

That Council:

- (a) Notes the Covid-19 Report.**
- (b) Express their gratitude to the Council staff who have shown their strong commitment and support to protecting community members.**

MEETING BREAKS FOR LUNCH AT 12:41PM

013/2022 **RESOLVED (Jason Mirritjawuy/Robert Yawarngu)**

MEETING RESUMES AFTER LUNCH AT 1:50PM

014/2022 **RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Bobby M Wunungmurra)**

Cr Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra left the meeting, the time being 01:51 PM
Cr Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra returned to the meeting, the time being 02:02 PM

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

9.1 FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled to provide the Finance Report for the period ended the 31 January 2022 for its approval.

015/2022 **RESOLVED (Kaye Thurlow/Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra)**

That Council approves the Finance Report with Human Resources information for the

period ending the 31 January 2022.

9.2 NEW POLICIES - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE POLICY, ALLOWANCE AND ANY OTHER BENEFITS POLICY (CEO), ACCOUNTABLE FORMS (MEMBERS & CEO) POLICY AND GIFTS AND BENEFITS POLICY (CEO)

SUMMARY:

The Local Government Act requires the Council to maintain policies on Professional Development Allowance Policy, Allowance and Any Other Benefits Policy (CEO), Use of Accountable Forms (all Members) Policy and Gifts and Benefits Policy.

016/2022 **RESOLVED (Bobby M Wunungmurra/Jason Mirritjawuy)**

That Council approves the:

- a) Professional Development Allowance Policy
- b) Allowance and Any Other Benefits Policy (CEO)
- c) Accountable Forms (Members & CEO) Policy and
- d) Gifts and Benefits Policy.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

10.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY ACTIONS - COUNCIL REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT

SUMMARY:

This report provides a summary list of actions arising from Local Authority meetings in each of the East Arnhem Regional Council communities.

017/2022 **RESOLVED (Constantine Mamarika/Robert Yawarngu)**

That Council:

- (a) Endorses the actions included in the Local Authority Actions List as recommended by each Local Authority, or as amended.
- (b) Approves the removal of completed actions and as recommended by each Local Authority.
- (c) Requests the President and CEO to raise with the Northern Territory and Australian Governments and with the media the outstanding need for genuine action on the resolutions of Local Authorities and Council regarding the reintroduction of Kava and issues regarding related substance misuse in the region.

10.2 UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP AND RESIGNATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY

SUMMARY:

This report provides to Council copies of minutes from Local Authority and Committee meetings and also lists the membership and resignation in each of the East Arnhem Regional Council communities.

018/2022 **RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Constantine Mamarika)**

That Council:

- a) Notes the unconfirmed minutes from the Local Authority and Committee meetings.**
- b) Accepts the resignation of the Gapuwiyak Local Authority member Michael Wunungmurra.**

CORRESPONDENCE

15.1 CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

019/2022 **RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Kaye Thurlow)**

That Council notes the ingoing and outgoing correspondence register.

MEETING MOVES TO CLOSED AGENDA AT 3:05PM

020/2022 **RESOLVED (Constantine Mamarika/Kaye Thurlow)**

MEETING RETURNS TO THE OPEN AGENDA AT 3:40PM

021/2022 **RESOLVED (Bobby M Wunungmurra/Wesley Bandi Wunungmurra)**

LATE ITEMS

11.1 2022 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SUMMARY:

This report is to advise Council that the call for motions and attendees has been made for the National General Assembly of Local Government to be held in June 2022.

022/2022 **RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Constantine Mamarika)**

That Council:

- (a) Notes the report on the call for motions for the 2022 National General Assembly of Local Government.**
- (b) Will consider and decide on the motion to be submitted by the 2022 National General Assembly of Local Government at a Special Meeting of Council to be called before submissions are due on Friday 25 March 2022.**
- (c) Will consider Councillors and Senior Officers to attend the NGA 22 in the Special Meeting.**

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON
THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10:00AM

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21 April 2022.

MEETING CLOSE

The meeting concluded at 4:05PM.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday, 24 February 2022, and are to be confirmed on the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 21 April 2022.