



HUMAN RIGHTS | EQUALITY

INDEPENDENCE

COMMUNITY | EQUITY

WORK CONFIDENCE

RESPECT

OPEN MINUTES for the Meeting of Council
27 November 2025

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

Members in Attendance:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji (Joined the meeting at 09:45 AM)

Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji

Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra

Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra

Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi (Joined the meeting at 09:40 AM)

Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji

Cr. Ganygulpa Dhamarrandji

Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy

Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika

Cr. Murphy Yunupingu (Left the meeting at 10:16 AM)

Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu

Deputy President commenced the meeting with Prayer at 09:27 AM.

East Arnhem Regional Council Officers:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)

Divyan Ahimaz (Director – Community Services)

Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)

Merianne Bretag (General Manager – People and Corporate Services)

Sonia Campbell (General Manager – Technical and Infrastructure Services)

Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager)

Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager)

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.1 Attendance

SUMMARY:

This report is to table, for the Councils record, any absences or apologies. Council need to make a decision on whether absences are granted permission. Any request for a leave of absence received can be considered.

MOC 2025/147 **RESOLVED (Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra/Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy)**

That Council:

- (a) **Notes the absence of Cr. David Warraya.**
- (b) **Notes the apology received from Cr. David Warraya.**
- (c) **Notes Cr. David Warraya are absent with permission of the Council and Council to write a letter to David requesting him with concern to take care of his health.**

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.2 Declarations of Interest

SUMMARY:

Elected members are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration by Council.

MOC 2025/149 **RESOLVED (Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Previous Council Minutes

MOC 2025/151 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)

That Council endorses the minutes of the previous Meetings of Council:

- (a) Ordinary Council Meeting on 18 September 2025.
- (b) Special Council Meeting on 25 September 2025.
- (c) Special Council Meeting on 04 November 2025.
- (d) Special Council Meeting on 14 November 2025.

2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions

GO NGILIMURR MALA DJARRYUN GA YURAM GA YAKAYUN GA BALWAK NGUPAN
DHUWAL DHARUK

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.1 Naming of the Darwin Conference Room

MOC 2025/152 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika/Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji)

That Council:

- (a) Supports the use of the name "Rambayi Dhawal Nhama" for the Darwin and Nhulunbuy main meeting rooms, followed by an explanation of its meaning in English and "Moving Forward Together".
- (b) Supports the welcome of 'Gululu' to be placed on the entrance door to the Darwin and Nhulunbuy main meeting rooms.
- (c) Endorses that once the Darwin main meeting room is named, it will be the location for the re-launch of the 'Moving Forward Together' movie and official naming of the room. The Council would like to invite delegates to the East Arnhem Regional Council Darwin office to participate.

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.2 Cyber Security Policy

SUMMARY:

Council is required to review its policies on a regular basis including the creation of new policies. A new Cyber Security Policy has been developed for Council approval.

MOC 2025/153 **RESOLVED (Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

That Council approves the new Cyber Security Policy.

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.3 Discrimination, Bullying & Harassment Policy

SUMMARY:

Council is required to review its policies on a regular basis. Attached is a revised version of Council's Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Policy for approval.

MOC 2025/154 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

That Council approves the revised Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Policy.

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.4 Workplace Health & Safety Policy

SUMMARY:

Council is required to review its policies on a regular basis. Attached is a revised version of Council's Workplace Health & Safety Policy for approval.

MOC 2025/156 **RESOLVED (Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)**

That Council notes the revised Workplace Health & Safety Policy.

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.5 Psychosocial Hazard Policy

MOC 2025/157 **RESOLVED (Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

That Council approves the new Psychosocial Hazard Policy.

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.6 Community Benefit Reserve Fund - Changes to Reserve Permitted Use**SUMMARY:**

The permitted future use and application of the Community Benefit Reserve to be updated to the following:

Unless otherwise specifically required and resolved by Council, the balance of the Community Benefit Reserve is not to be replenished/topped up each financial year from Councils general reserves.

Additionally, the current balance of each community reserve of \$333,333.33 is to be transferred from the Community Benefit Reserve, back into Councils general reserve.

MOC 2025/158 **RESOLVED (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

That Council approves:

- (a) The updated permitted use of the Community Benefit Reserve Fund and;**
- (b) The Council's contribution of \$333,333.33 per community location towards the Community Benefit Reserve for FY25/26 to be transferred back to Councils general reserve.**

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.7 Theft of Cash - Nhulunbuy Office

MOC 2025/159 **RESOLVED (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

That Council:

- (a) Notes the cash theft of \$1,799.50 of cash from the Nhulunbuy safe.**
- (b) Approves the write off of \$1,799.50 cash in the financial accounts.**
- (c) Notes the improved internal control to mitigate future risk - no cash will be kept in the Nhulunbuy office in future.**

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.8 Grant Repayment - Department of People, Sport & Culture and Department of Social Services

SUMMARY:

This report is presented to Council to outline the grant underspends for the Department of People, Sport & Culture and the Department of Social Services for Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) for the period ending 30 June 2025 and to seek approval for the return of the unspent funds.

MOC 2025/162 **RESOLVED (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji)**

That Council notes and approves:

- (a) The Grant underspend to be returned to the Department of People, Sport & Culture amounting to \$37,587.31.**
- (b) The Grant underspend to be returned to the Department of Social Services for Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) amounting to \$32,682.30.**

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.9 Local Authority Membership

SUMMARY:

This report presents the nomination for Council's consideration and approval, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 (NT) and the Council's Local Authority membership procedures.

MOC 2025/163 **RESOLVED (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy)**

That Council:

- (a) Approves the appointment of Karina Wunungmurra as a member of the Milingimbi Local Authority.**
- (b) Does not approve the appointment of John GurrumGurrum as a member of the Galiwinku Local Authority.**

A lunch break was taken by Council Members from 12:07 pm to 1:08 pm.

3 Noting Progress and Achievement

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.1 Minutes of Committees

MOC 2025/165 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy)

That Council endorses the minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- (a) Finance Committee Meeting held on 22 October 2025.
- (b) Audit Committee Meeting held on 31 October 2025.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.2 Minutes of Local Authorities

MOC 2025/168 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji)

That Council endorses the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings:

- (a) Ramingining Local Authority Meeting held on 23 October 2025.
- (b) Milingimbi Local Authority Meeting held on 24 October 2025.
- (c) Galiwinku Local Authority Meeting held on 27 October 2025.
- (d) Gapuwiyak Local Authority Meeting held on 28 October 2025.
- (e) Yirrkala Local Authority Meeting held on 29 October 2025.
- (f) Gunyangara Local Authority Meeting held on 30 October 2025.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.3 Local Authority Action Registers

SUMMARY:

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

MOC 2025/169 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika)

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.**

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 CEO Report

MOC 2025/170 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Stephen Malwarriwuy Dhamarrandji)

That Council notes the CEO Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Council Services Report

SUMMARY:

This report is to provide information on the progress, successes, challenges, and future opportunities of the Council Services Directorate.

MOC 2025/171 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)

That Council notes the Council Services Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.6 Community Services Report

SUMMARY:

This report provides information on the progress, successes, challenges, and future opportunities of the Council's Community Services Directorate.

MOC 2025/172 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)

That Council notes the Community Services Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.7 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

SUMMARY:

This report is submitted for the Council's consideration and provides program updates from the Technical and Infrastructure Directorate. The updates pertain to Capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2025-2026 Annual Plan.

MOC 2025/173 RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)

That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.8 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled to the Council to provide the Finance and Human Resources Report for the period ended 31 October 2025 for its approval.

MOC 2025/175 RESOLVED (Cr. Evelyn Dhamarrandji/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)

That Council approves the Finance and Human Resources Report for the period ended 31 October 2025.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.9 Correspondence Register

SUMMARY:

This report details the incoming and outgoing correspondence that Council has received and sent.

MOC 2025/177 RESOLVED (Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)

That Council notes the Correspondence Register.

4 Confidential Reports

That Council moves into Confidential Session.

Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji/Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra

Members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the Closed Session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld. This action is taken in accordance with Section 99 of the Local Government Act, 2019 as the items lists come within the following provisions:-

That the decisions of Closed Session be noted as follows: As noted in Confidential minutes.

5 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

5.1 General Business

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Council recommends that all Council Members stay in the meeting for the entire session, unless they need to leave due to an emergency.

5.2 Date of Next Meeting

26 February 2026.

6 Meeting Close

The meeting concluded at 03:38 PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 27 November 2025, and are to be confirmed.