

MINUTES OF THE **ORDINARY** MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 24 MAY 2022 IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, ALICE SPRINGS

13. RESUMPTION OF MEETING IN OPEN

14. Opening of the Open Meeting by the Mayor (Chair) and Acknowledgement of Country

Mayor Matt Paterson declared the meeting open at **11:06am** and welcomed all present to the meeting.

Mayor Matt Paterson acknowledged the Central Arrernte people who are the traditional owners and custodians of Alice Springs.

Mayor Matt Paterson reminded that this meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's website. By speaking at a Council meeting, you agree to being recorded. Alice Springs Town Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures made during the course of this Council meeting.

Media present – ABC Alice Springs

PRESENT

Mayor M. Paterson (Chair)

Deputy Mayor E. Melky

Councillor M. Banks

Councillor A. Bitar

Councillor S. Brown

Councillor J Cocking

Councillor M. Coffey

Councillor K. Hopper

Councillor M. Liddle (11.07am)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R. Jennings – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Ms S. Taylor – Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community Development

Mr M. Goode – Acting Director Technical Services

Mr A. Geppa – Media Officer

Mrs E. Williams – Executive Assistant (Minutes)

Ms A. Chin – Executive Assistant

15. PRAYER

Emily Hayes from the Uniting Church Alice Springs.

16. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

17. WELCOME

18. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

19. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Nil

20. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

20.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Open Meeting held on 26 April, 2022

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 26 April, 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED (22198)

20.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

20.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Item 26.2.1 – Street Lighting Power Account

Councillor Hopper asked for an update around the higher spend.

Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community Development advised that it is still in progress and are awaiting a response from Power Water.

20.2.2 Councillor Cocking – ASALC Solar Faults

Councillor Cocking asked for an update on the faults with the solar at ASALC.

Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community Development responded that one of the solar panels was faulty but that Council are still working through the issue and will respond in time

20.2.3 Councillor Hopper – Item 21.1 – Regional Skate Park

Councillor Hopper asked around the language on the naming of the Park.

The Mayor responded that it is still out for community consultation which means that the name may change, depending on what the community requests.

20.2.4 Councillor Hopper – Item 29.2 – Trans Inclusion in Sport

Councillor Hopper asked for an update on the Statement of Support.

The CEO responded that a draft has been prepared and will be distributed before completion.

21. MAYORAL REPORT

21.1 Mayor's Report
Report No. 66 / 22 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the Mayor's report be received.

CARRIED (22199)

21.2 Business Arising from the Report

21.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Item 1.3 – Central Drones meeting

Councillor Hopper asked for context around this meeting.

The Mayor gave an overview of the meeting and the usage of drones around safety. The Mayor will request that Central Drones come and present to Council.

Discussion ensued.

21.2.2 Councillor Banks – Federal Election Outcome

Councillor Banks asked the Mayor if he had been in formal contact with the new Federal members following the Federal Election.

The Mayor responded that he had been in unofficial contact but that correspondence will be sent once the outcomes are formalised.

The CEO responded that draft letters of congratulations are being prepared.

Discussion ensued.

21.2.3 Councillor Banks – Property Council of Australia

Councillor Banks asked if there were any outcomes following the Deputation by the Property Council of Australia.

The Mayor responded that the report has been received and that it is very similar to the report developed by Council.

Discussion ensued.

22. ORDERS OF THE DAY

22.1 That Elected Members and Officers provide notification of matters to be raised in General Business.

22.1.1 Mayor – Review of Committees

22.1.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Climate Action Plan

22.1.3 Deputy Mayor Melky – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

22.1.4 Councillor Cocking - Proposed Community Safety Summit and Proposed Independent Commission on Youth Engagement and Community Safety

22.1.5 Councillor Cocking - Uniting Church Public Toilet Concerns, Shaded Area for Painters and Collaboration for CBD Revitalisation

22.1.6 Councillor Cocking – Water bubblers at Albrecht Oval

22.1.7 Councillor Cocking – Acknowledgement of the efforts of works crew in managing to reduce the fuel load in the river

- 22.1.8 Councillor Cocking – Acknowledgement of the new Labor Federal Government and move a motion ‘That Council write a letter of congratulations to elected Senators, Member for Lingiari and the Prime Minister and express Council’s willingness to work together to deliver positive outcomes for Alice Springs and the region.’
- 22.1.9 Deputy Mayor Melky – Political Campaign Promises
- 22.1.10 Councillor Hopper – Opening Prayer
- 22.1.11 Councillor Brown – Town Greening
- 22.1.12 Councillor Brown – Meeting Frequency
- 22.1.13 Councillor Brown – CBD Revitalisation

23. MEMORIALS

23.1 Dr Charles Butcher, OAM

Dr Charles Butcher OAM MB BS FRCS (Glasgow) FRACS

Dr Charles Butcher died on the 14 April 2022 aged eighty-four years following his service to the Alice Springs community as a Surgeon for twenty-five years.

Charles was born in Rochester, Victoria in 1937, the second son to dairy farmers. He rode a horse to primary school and a horse and bus to secondary school. His secondary education was at the Technical College in Echuca. He left school at fifteen to work on his parent’s dairy farm for ten years where he studied years 11 and 12 by correspondence after his day’s work.

In 1969 he graduated with MB BS (Honours) from Melbourne University and following his studies, worked as a Dr at St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne and Royal Perth Hospital. Following a period working in Wyndham Western Australia he went to Scotland in 1972 to gain his surgical degree FRCS (Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons) (Glasgow).

Returning to Australia in 1975, he was appointed Surgeon to the Kimberly area of Western Australia based in Derby. His years in the Kimberly postings also involved working with the Royal Flying Doctor Service for radio clinics, and in person at remote stations and hospitals. All emergency evacuations he ordered at night by plane he accompanied. Following his work in the Kimberly’s he worked in Perth hospitals and then accepted the position of Senior Surgeon in Alice Springs commencing in February 1980 and was awarded his Australian FRACS (Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons) in 1986.

Charles started the first private Specialist practice in Alice Springs in 1987 and continued sharing his time at the Alice Springs Hospital, with regular trips to Tennant Creek until July 2000.

Following his retirement from private practice, he spent five years at the Alice Springs Hospital with fellow Surgeon Dr David Hamilton and until 2009 worked as a locum.

He also contributed as a member of the Northern Territory Medical Board for ten years, the Road Safety Committee in Central Australia and St Philips College Board for thirty-five years where he was appointed a Life Governor of St Philips College in 2014 after joining the committee in 1980. This included twenty years as their Board Chairman.

His OAM was awarded in 2007 for service to rural and remote medicine in the Northern Territory and to the community.

Thank you to Mrs Laurel Butcher for granting permission to use this memorial.

The Mayor gave notice that Mr Bob Kennedy, previous Elected Member has also recently passed away and a Memorial will be presented at the June Ordinary Meeting of Council.

24. PETITIONS

Nil

25. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

26. FINANCE

26.1 Finance Report
Report No. 61 / 22 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Cocking

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22200)

26.2 Business Arising from the Report

26.2.1 Councillor Coffey – EFT Payment Summary

Councillor Coffey asked around the accuracy of the data presented.

Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community Development responded that a high level of due diligence will be undertaken to ensure accuracy.

Councillor Coffey asked around the Elected Member payments and why they were no longer being reported.

Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community responded that she will confirm with the Finance team and re-introduce.

A new system will be introduced in August with background work currently being undertaken.

Councillor Banks left the Chamber at 11.33am

Councillor Banks returned to the Chamber at 11.35am

26.2.2 Councillor Hopper – EFT Payment Summary

Councillor Hopper asked about the payment made to the Bruce Family Trust and asked if it is usual practice to pay for services before completion.

The CEO took the question on notice.

Deputy Mayor Melky left the Chamber at 11.39am

Deputy Mayor Melky returned to the Chamber at 11.42am

27. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

27.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

27.1.1 CEO Report
Report No. 67 / 22 cncl

Moved – Councillor Cocking

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the CEO report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22201)

27.1.2 Business Arising from the Report

27.1.2.1 Councillor Cocking – Item 3 – Alice Partnership meeting

Councillor Cocking asked if this is an existing group with a new name or a new group.

The CEO responded that this an existing group that looks at operational and strategic matters.

27.1.2.2 Councillor Cocking – Meeting with Kerry Graham

Councillor Cocking asked about the meeting with Ms Graham.

The CEO responded that he met with Kerry as an information sharing exercise and will be scheduling another meeting in the future.

27.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

27.2.1 Project Update for Verge Care
Report No. 62/ 22 cncI

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Cocking

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22202)

27.2.2 Business Arising from the Report

Councillor Coffey passed on his appreciation to the Officers in turning the project around in a timely manner.

The CEO will pass the thanks onto the team involved.

Discussion ensued around the operational costs and funding.

27.2.3 Project Update for myAlice
Report No. 63 / 22 cncI

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22203)

27.2.4 Business Arising from the Report

Councillor Cocking gave his congratulations on the program and the positive results being experienced within the local economy.

27.2.5 MOU between Alice Springs Town Council and Tourism Central Australia
Report No. 68 / 22 cncl

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That Council endorse the proposed MOU between ASTC and TCA as recommended with the removal of the words “this will include voting right for the Alice Springs Town Council representative....”

CARRIED (22204)

27.2.6 Business Arising from the Report

Discussion ensued.

27.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

27.3.1 UNCONFIRMED Minutes – Tourism, Events and Promotions Committee – 28 April 2022

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

That the minutes from the Tourism, Events and Promotions Committee held on 28 April, 2022 be received.

CARRIED (22205)

27.3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Coffey asked for an amendment be made on the closing time of the meeting.

27.3.3 Tourism, Events and Promotions Committee Membership
Report No. 69 / 22 cncI

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 8.3.1

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Bitar

That Council endorses Liz Archer as a new general member on the Tourism, Events and Promotions (TEP) Committee, with a term expiration of May 2024.

CARRIED (22189)

27.3.4 Recommendations of Tourism, Events and Promotions Committee –
28 April 2022

27.3.3 (1) Sponsorship Application – SA & NT Morsecodian Fraternity (Agenda Item 6.1)

Moved – Councillor Banks

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

That the application from SA & NT Morsecodian Fraternity not be supported, as it did not meet the sponsorship criteria.

CARRIED (22206)

27.4 TECHNICAL SERVICES

27.4.1 Technical Services Update
Report No. 70/ 22 cncI

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That this report be received and noted

CARRIED (22207)

27.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

27.4.2.1 Councillor Cocking – Recycling Decrease in Income

Councillor Cocking asked for more information on the decrease in income with recycling.

The Acting Director Technical Services took the question on notice and will provide an analysis of the data.

27.4.2.2 Mayor – ASALC Shade Sails and Vandalism Prevention

The Mayor asked around roller shutters being installed to prevent damage at ASALC.

Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community responded that they are working with security consultants who are providing advice.

A report will be presented to the June meeting.

Shade sails will provide shade for swimmers rather than just being a vandalism deterrent.

27.4.2.3 Councillor Bitar – Parks Masterplan

Councillor Bitar asked around the commencement of the Masterplan process.

Acting Director Technical Services has sought three quotes which are being processed and that work will look at commencing shortly.

27.4.2.4 Councillor Bitar – Tree Planting Schedule

Councillor Bitar spoke to the schedule presented and advised that the schedule is very much behind.

Acting Director Technical Services responded that some of the information presented was incorrect. A review is being undertaken of the tree planting process as staff are struggling to keep up with the program.

The Mayor responded that there is an option to include community members into the tree planting program to take the pressure of the Depot. Schools are also an option.

Discussion ensued.

27.4.2.5 Councillor Cocking – Solar Lights

Councillor Cocking asked around the solar light's placement

Councillor Coffey responded that the information presented is outdated but that there are discussions being had with NTG with recommendations being presented to Council at a later date.

Councillor Coffey advised that there is a Motion from the January 2022 meeting around lighting around the Uniting Church.

Discussion ensued

27.4.2.6 Councillor Cocking – Vandalism

Councillor Cocking asked around the reporting of vandalism of Council property – can it include further details.

CEO responded that he will address this in the Confidential portion of the meeting at a later date.

Discussion ensued.

Councillor Hopper left the Chamber at 12.15pm

Councillor Hopper returned to the Chamber at 12.17pm

27.4.2.7 Councillor Cocking – Climate Action Plan

Councillor Cocking asked for clarity and a progress update on the Sustainability Policy and KPI's

Acting Director Technical Services to provide an update.

27.4.2.8 Councillor Banks – Major Projects

Councillor Banks asked around the public toilets on Hartley Street – will they form part of the Major Projects.

The CEO responded that an update will be provided at a later date.

27.4.2.9 Councillor Banks – Jim McConville Lights

Councillor Banks asked around the consultation with the community – is this still on track>

The Mayor responded that this has formed part of the report.

27.4.2.10 Councillor Banks – Madigan Park

Councillor Banks asked for an update on the development of this land.

The Mayor responded that is on the workshop list but that other priorities have recently taken priority.

27.4.2.11 Councillor Brown – Lyndavale Park

Councillor Brown asked about the work being carried out on Lyndavale Park

Acting Director Technical Services responded that work is progressing with a completion date of August.

27.4.3 Request to Approve Street Name – “Arrpwere” in Kilgariff Stage 2B Report No. 72/ 22 cncI

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Liddle

That Council approve Road 1 within the Kilgariff Stage 2B development, be named: “Arrpwere” as recommended by the Place Names Committee.

CARRIED (22208)

27.4.4 Business Arising from the Report

Councillor Coffey asked around educating the community on the proper pronunciation of the name.

The Mayor responded that there is phonetic pronunciation usually provided underneath the Arrernte naming.

Discussion ensued.

27.4.5 Update Report for Jim McConville Oval – Proposed Lighting Towers Report No. 73/ 22 cncI

Moved – Councillor Bitar

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That this report be received and noted

CARRIED (22209)

27.4.6 Business Arising from the Report

Discussion ensued.

27.4.7 Proposed Installation of Street Lights Along Karnte Road
Report No. 74/ 22 cncI

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

That Council approve the NTG request for permission to install street lights along Karnte Road, subject to the signing of an MOU between ASTC and the NTG (or Tangentyere Council) stating NTG (or Tangentyere Council) will maintain the street lights at no cost to ASTC.

CARRIED (22210)

27.4.8 Business Arising from the Report

Councillor Coffey asked around the maintenance of the infrastructure. The Mayor responded that it will be up to NTG and/or Tangentyere.

Discussion ensued.

The CEO will provide a paper to the Elected Members on the background of streetlighting.

Discussion ensued.

27.4.9 Community Notice Board
Report No. 75/ 22 cncI

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Mayor Paterson

That subject to NTG agreement, Council refer the NTG offer of \$150k funding for the digital display board to another organisation such as Alice Springs Chamber of Commerce, Tourism NT, Tourism Central Australia (TCA), etc.

CARRIED (22211)

27.4.10 Business Arising from the Report

Discussion ensued.

27.4.11 Redtails Pinktails (Previously Central Australian Football Club)
Report No. 71 / 22 cncI

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 8.4.1

Moved – Councillor Cocking

Seconded – Councillor Brown

1. **That a report is provided to Council on a framework for Grants, Sponsorships, Donations and Unsolicited Proposals policy.**
2. **That Officers confirm to Redtails/Pinktails the existing arrangements of \$5,000 p/a for five years.**
3. **Invite Redtails/Pinktails to make a submission through the approved Council framework.**

CARRIED (22190)

28. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

28.1 Mayor – Review of Committees

The Mayor asked the CEO when will committees be reviewed.

The CEO responded that this will form part of the Strategic Plan.

Council broke for lunch at 1.03pm and returned at 1.31pm

29. GENERAL BUSINESS

Director Taylor left the Chamber at 1.33pm

Director Taylor returned to the Chamber at 1.35pm

29.1 Deputy Mayor Melky – Climate and Environment Policy

Deputy Mayor Melky presented the following Motion:

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

That Alice Springs Town Council develops a Climate and Environment policy to inform all aspects of Alice Springs Town Council business.

CARRIED (22212)

Discussion ensued.

Councillor Liddle left the Chamber at 1.36pm
Councillor Liddle returned to the Chamber at 1.37pm

Councillor Banks left the Chamber at 1.38pm
Councillor Banks returned to the Chamber at 1.39pm

29.2 Deputy Mayor Melky – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Deputy Mayor Melky presented the following Motion:

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

- A. That Alice Springs Town Council conduct an Environmental Design review of the Alice Springs CBD with a crime prevention lens, to be incorporated as part of future CBD revitalisation developments and approach the Northern Territory Government to jointly fund the review.**
- B. In the context of the previous CPTED audit of the CBD, that Alice Springs Town Council identifies immediate actions to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.**

CARRIED (22213)

Discussion ensued.

Councillor Liddle left the Chamber at 2.16pm
Councillor Liddle returned to the Chamber at 2.18pm

29.3 Deputy Mayor Melky – Political Campaign Promises

Deputy Mayor Melky that Council develop a framework around the promises made by the successful candidates during the Federal Election campaign.

The CEO responded that there is a meeting being held this week around the promises made.

29.4 Councillor Cocking – Proposed Community Safety Summit and Proposed Independent Commission on Youth Engagement and Community Safety

Councillor Cocking presented the following Motion:

Moved – Councillor Cocking

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

That Council supports the call for an independent commission into youth engagement and community safety.

DEFERRED

Discussion ensued.

That the Motion be deferred.

The CEO responded that there are some comments in the Resolution tracking sheet that have been distributed and that Council are seeking assistance on some of these. The Northern Territory Government have responded that they wish to be involved and Council are now looking at progressing this.

29.5 Councillor Cocking - Uniting Church Public Toilet Concerns, Shaded Area for Painters and Collaboration for CBD Revitalisation

Councillor Cocking acknowledged the email received by the Uniting Church around the closure of the toilets on Hartley Street and asked for an update on the repair / replacement.

The CEO responded that further consideration will be had around this.

Councillor Cocking went on to ask around potential shade structures in the Mall for artists painting and selling artwork

The CEO responded that shading can be included in future planning around the CBD.

29.6 Councillor Cocking – Water bubblers at Albrecht Oval

Councillor Cocking asked for a status on the return of the of the water bubblers at Albrecht Oval.

The Mayor responded that he believed they were removed during the COVID-19 pandemic and asked why they haven't been returned.

The CEO responded that it will be investigated.

29.7 Councillor Cocking – Acknowledgement of the efforts of works crew in managing to reduce the fuel load in the river

Councillor Cocking acknowledged the work done in reducing the fuel load along the river corridor and asked the Acting Director Technical Services to pass this onto the crews concerned.

29.8 Councillor Cocking – Acknowledgement of the new Labor Federal Government

Councillor Cocking asked that Council offer congratulations to the declared winners

Moved – Mayor Paterson

Seconded – Councillor Cocking

That Council write a letter of congratulations to elected Senators, Member for Lingiari and the Prime Minister and express Council's willingness to work together to deliver positive outcomes for Alice Springs and the region.

WITHDRAWN

The Mayor responded that this is already being actioned by Officers but that the letters won't be completed until the final numbers are declared by the Electoral Commission.

Discussion ensued.

Councillor Banks left the Chamber at 2.53pm

Councillor Banks returned to the Chamber at 2.57pm

29.9 Councillor Hopper – Opening Prayer

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Melky

That Alice Springs Town Council invite leaders of all faiths to offer a prayer at the opening of Ordinary Meetings of Council.

CARRIED (22214)

Councillor Liddle left the Chamber at 2.58pm

Councillor Liddle returned to the Chamber at 3.00pm

29.10 Councillor Brown – Town Greening / CBD Revitalisation

Councillor Brown presented the following Motion:

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

That Alice Springs Town Council tree planting program be elevated to priority project status.

CARRIED (22215)

Discussion ensued.

The Executive Assistant will give the Elected Members access to the Forum Calendar via Monday.com and email to allow for prioritising on projects.

Discussion ensued.

29.11 Councillor Brown – Meeting Frequency

Councillor Brown suggested that meetings be held twice a month rather than once a month to allow for the large workload.

Discussion ensued.

The CEO suggested that the meeting structure be retained but that additional Forum's be scheduled.

Discussion ensued.

30. MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

Media matters will be covered via the media attendance at this meeting.

31. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28 June, 2022 at 8.30am

32. ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN MEETING

Mayor Matt Paterson declared the meeting closed at **3.16pm**

Moved – Deputy Mayor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

The Council stands adjourned.

CARRIED (22216)

Confirmed on _____

CHAIRPERSON _____

Date _____ +