

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
**ALICE SPRINGS AQUATIC & LEISURE CENTRE COMMITTEE**  
 ON MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2020 at 11:00am  
 ARUNTA ROOM

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**1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Damien Ryan  
 Deputy Mayor Jacinta Price  
 Councillor Jamie de Brenni (*Chair*)  
 Councillor Jimmy Cocking  
 Councillor Eli Melky  
 Councillor Matt Paterson

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Robert Jennings, Chief Executive Officer  
 Scott Allen, Director Technical Services  
 Kim Sutton, Director Community Development  
 Petina Franklin, Manager Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre  
 Mel Bennett, Manager Finance  
 Telly Ociones, E/A to Director Community Development (*minutes*)

**APOLOGIES:**

Sabine Taylor, Director Corporate Services

<b>13th Alice Springs Town Council ALICE SPRINGS AQUATIC &amp; LEISURE CENTRE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>9 Sept 2019</b>	<b>12 Nov 2019</b>	<b>24 Mar 2020</b>	<b>30 June 2020</b>	<b>8 Sept 2020</b>	<b>23 Nov 2020</b>
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deputy Mayor Jacinta Price						✓
Councillor Jamie de Brenni						✓
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Eli Melky	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Matt Paterson	✓	✓	✓	<b>A</b>	<b>--</b>	✓
Councillor Glen Auricht	<b>A</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	

✓	Attended
✓ <b>Proxy</b>	Proxy attended in place of committee member
<b>A</b>	Apology received
<b>--</b>	No attendance and no apology recorded
	Not a member

The meeting opened at 11:05am.

**2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:**

Nil

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:****RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre Committee meeting held 8 September 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: Mayor Damien Ryan  
Seconded: Councillor Eli Melky

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES****4.1 ASALC Finances – June, July and August 2020 Financial Report**

Manager Finance provided the following updates on the questions taken on notice at the last meeting.

- *Since insurance is a big portion of ASALC cost, can this be taken out of Other Operating Expenses and put it as its own item*

Actioned. A separate insurance line has been created

- *Is Trisleys service cost properly allocated?*

At this stage, there has not been a quarterly service bill from Trisley's. This may be due to not being able to attend in Alice Springs due to travel restrictions.

- *Gas bill has not been received to date. The last one was received in July for last financial year.*

Council has not as of yet received a quarterly bill from the service provider. It is anticipated this to be received soon.

- *Water and sewerage billing.*

Water is charged monthly and sewerage quarterly. The change in when the monthly finances are presented to Council has meant that we are able to accrue the costs once the invoice is received.

- *Vehicle charges.*

Large majority of this budget is for annual vehicle registration, which is paid every May. To date, there have been no vehicle repairs and maintenance for the ASALC vehicle.

Mayor Ryan asked if the gas billing is done quarterly, why is there no billing received to date.

**ACTION:**

Manager Finance will follow up and check the gas billing for ASALC.

**5. DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Capital Projects Update**

The Director Technical Services provided a progress update on ASALC capital projects.

#### ASALC Changerooms and Kiosk Upgrades

The kiosk has been completed except for the electronic notice board which is yet to arrive.

The indoor changerrooms are 90% complete. The partitions are still to be installed. The outdoor changerrooms are 80% complete. The tiling on the walls are done and the floors will be finished this week.

Health inspection will be done after the works are completed. The opening of the facility is anticipated to be in mid-December 2020.

### **6.2 ASALC Financial Report – September and October 2020**

Mayor Ryan asked if the costs of the changerrooms and kiosk upgrades are reflected on the ASALC Financial Performance report. Manager Finance advised that the financial report reflects the operational cost of the facility. The changerrooms and kiosk upgrades expenditures are project based and outside of the financial report. The splash pad/water play feature was part of the capital budget of ASALC and reflected on the financial report.

Councillor Melky enquired how the 'expected % of budget' column is determined and what does this figure represents. Manager Finance advised that ASALC has a seasonal budget (5% over winter period and 10% over the summer). This column is the expected percentage of the total annual budget as at the date of the report.

### **6.3 ASALC Running Cost**

Councillor Melky raised concern about the continuing increase in operational cost to provide a service at ASALC. Based on the current projected income from the pool activities at \$635K, on an average entry cost of \$6 per person, it takes 105K participants to go through the gates. The facility run a shortfall of \$2,326,236 to provide this service, which Council subsidise. Approximately \$29 per person is the cost to cover all costs to deliver this service.

Councillor Melky suggested to consider applying to the government some assistance to offset the cost and making the public aware that their rates are subsidising entry to the pool by x amount of dollars.

Discussion ensued about marketing strategy to reduce costs and the best way to cover the gap efficiently and effectively. The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Director Community Development is speaking to the Alice Spring Swim Club to look at best deals and opportunities for user groups. The review of ASALC will look at a plan over the next four years, including how it is operating at present, what are the gaps and the recommendations and implementation over the next few years.

#### **ACTION:**

Council officers will look at potential opportunities to offset the cost of providing service at ASALC and report back to Council.

#### **6.4 Family Vouchers**

Councillor Melky asked about the take-up of family passes (three-month and twelve-month passes) in terms of marketing; how many people pay as individual and take-up these packages that are on offer.

**ACTION:**

Manager ASALC took the question on notice and will report back to the next meeting.

#### **6.5 Business Plan Progress Update**

Manager Finance has started conversations with Technical Services about design and concept of playground and outdoor gym equipment. The design should be ready in January 2021 for feedback.

#### **6.6 Events Update**

Red Centre Splash – held two weeks ago; 1,200 people attended  
NAIDOC week – approx. 600 attendees  
Splash parties over the school holidays on Sundays and Wednesdays  
New Year's Eve party  
Australia Day party

Mayor Ryan requested that a written update on Capital Projects Update, Business Plan Progress Update and Events Update, be provided before the meeting so members can read and ask questions accordingly.

**ACTION:**

Manager ASALC to include in the ASALC meeting papers a written update on requested items.

#### **6.7 2021 Meeting Schedule**

The meeting times for 2021 are as follows:

- Monday, 8 March 2021 at 11am
- Monday, 14 June 2021 at 11am
- Monday, 13 September 2021 at 11am
- Monday, 8 November 2021 at 11am

Mayor Ryan suggested to move the September meeting to October as it is too close to the Local Government elections and new Elected Members are still doing induction training.

**ACTION:**

Change the 13 September 2021 meeting schedule to October 2021.

### **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **7.1 Finance Report**

The Chief Executive Officer noted on the Finances, there is a greater level of refinement, when we have our Insurance package, it should not just be 100% item at the end of the year. It should be tracked. As the budgets get finer, we will be able to get this kind of detail.

## 7.2 Alice Springs Swimming Club

Mayor Ryan put forward a request from the Alice Springs Swimming Club (ASSC) for Council to consider waiving the pool entry fee (*currently \$294.80 annual fee for anyone to use the pool*) and join SFAC and only use the pool when swimming with the AS Swimming Club.

Discussion ensued about the SFAC guidelines and short-changing the other sports if ASSC will join SFAC. Organisations that are part of SFAC contribute \$6,000 to \$8,000 a year into the pot, based on the number of club members, and this would not be a great benefit to ASSC to what they try to achieve.

The Chief Executive Officer and Director Community Development met with Gabriel Waterford last week and were committed to get back to him in two weeks. Since then, the Director had a few meetings with Director Technical Services and Manager ASALC and came up with a possible solution of looking at a membership type card, which is anticipated to be put in place in 2021.

Mayor Ryan would like this resolved this year and would like to get a direction from Council at the December Ordinary meeting.

### **ACTION:**

The Chief Executive Officer and Director Community Development will meet with Gabriel Waterford in two weeks, with an aim that a new system or arrangement commences in 2021, in time for the ASSC to recommence their new season in the new year and report back to Council.

## 9. **NEXT MEETING: 8 March 2021**

The meeting stands adjourned and resumes in the Confidential Section.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45am