

Mataranka
**Local Authority Meeting
Minutes**

Held in Mataranka Community Hall

5.30pm Wednesday 2 July 2014

Meeting was opened at 5.40pm by the Chair Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane.

1. Present:

- 1.1 Elected Members:** Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane, Cr Annabel Daylight
- 1.2 Local Authority Members:** Allan Ekert, Di Angel, Veronica Russo, Biddy Hamilton, Tracey-Anne Wilson, Leah Niehus,
- 1.3 RGRCStaff**
Marc Gardner- Director Contracts and Technical Services, Bruce Ross- Acting CSM, Jo Nicol-Governance.
- 1.4 Visitors/Guests.** Bruce Strachan.

The Pledge was read.

2. Apologies:

Sharon Hillen, Michael Cowan , Sue Edwards, Chris Cookson(Night Patrol)

3. Conflict of Interest:

None Declared

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes Attached.

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2014 be accepted as a true and proper record. Biddy Hamilton requested that Correspondence in/out and reports that were verbal could please be dot pointed in the minutes. All agreed.

Motion to accept the previous Minutes.

Moved: Allan Ekert Seconded: Leah Niehus
All agreed.

5. Business Arising/Action List;

5.1. Previous minutes action List.

In response to Better Half's letter, locks have been secured on all fridges.

Land Release –Bruce has spoken to Lachlan Kelso and Land release is still on track for Mataranka.

6. Correspondence

6.1. Incoming Correspondence:

- 6.1.1 Letter from Better Half Club 15.05.2014
Letter from CEO re:Recruitment

6.2. Outgoing Correspondence:

- 6.2.1. Internal Memo to CEO re:Recruitment Delays 12.06.2014
Internal memo to Mayor re:Rates 11.06.2014

7. General Business

7.1. *Elected Member Report:

Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane provided a verbal report.

- Council Meeting was held 25/6/2014
- Travelled to Canberra to attend ALGA Conference for 3 ½ days. Various speakers including a moving ANZAC tribute. RGRC put a motion to the conference to support Infrastructure and Roads which was passed.
- \$5000 grants available for communities to commemorate ANZAC Day
- The BP Roadhouse at Larrimah will go to auction 4pm 7th August at Katherine Hotel/Motel.
- Mayor is on leave 1st-21st July so will be acting Mayor
- Dog Trapping has commenced, RRLG have sent letters complaining about wild dogs.
- The Roads to recovery funding has been extended to 5 years
- DM was on CSM interview panel and CEO review panel.
- Legal action on Lot 17B has commenced and will be resolved in 3 weeks.

7.2. *Council Services Managers Report:

- A change to Aged Care, basically 2 levels of care one level of care is now being serviced from Katherine. LA concerned at how the new system will work and is there risk management provisions have been put in place.
Action: CSM to flag with Lara LA concerns.
- Eric Dodd resigned recently due to ill health. A function to farewell him is being organised for 9/7/14.
- 2 vacant Municipal positions will be advertised this week.
- Library hours have been disrupted this week with the Library Officer on sick leave.

Mataranka Regional Local Authority ask for a letter to be sent to the CEO requesting a floating position in Mataranka that can fill in when staff are on leave at Aged Care, Centrelink, Library, Front Counter. Moved: Biddy Hamilton
Seconded: Leah Niehus Carried unanimously.

- Bess Price MLA visited on 6/5/14 local issues discussed; Roper Highway, Land Release, Multi-function Sport Centre, Lack of Police resources, Multi-function Sports Centre, Library Funding.
- 2 Dogs and 1 pig were impounded during the month.
- Animal Welfare Officer requested to do patrols, resources may be reduced this financial year.
- Ngukurr Rangers were co-ordinated to spray Belly Ache Bush around Bitter Springs area.
- We are hiring our movie projector to the Mataranka Fishing Sport and Recreation Club, once a month free of charge for use at the Hall for family nights.
- Female toilets at the Hall have been fixed.
- Several travellers with horses have been paying for camping at Sport and Rec Grounds.
- I have put a lot of work into getting the NT Government to take responsibility for cleaning up the rest stop near the Lime Plant and also at Stirling Mill. Only limited success.
- Fees of \$115 per cubic metre for dumping commercial waste at the rubbish tip now apply. I am only targeting non-residents.
- The camera surveillance signs and camera should be installed this month.
- The school holiday program appears to be working well.
- CSM had an onsite meeting with AFLNT's Denis Coburn 17.06.2014. Denis provided a comprehensive condition report to how the Mataranka Oval can be upgraded to hold AFL matches. It was noted in the report that upgrading the Oval will be great for surrounding communities to access. The first stage would be to get the AFL Goal posts at a cost of \$10,000.

Motion: That RGRC fund the purchase and installation of AFL goal posts for the Mataranka Oval. Moved: Tracey Wilson Seconded: Biddy Hamilton.
Carried unanimously

Marc Gardner addresses the LA Meeting re: CSM position, Michael Solar from Galiwinku has been appointed he has a wealth of experience, 44 applicants, 2 were interviewed, will commence 14th July. The Jilkminggan CSM has resigned and due to housing constraints the Mataranka CSM will be based in Jilkminggan and cover both communities for a trial period. Mataranka Region Local Authority members were very unhappy with this decision and wanted to express their dissatisfaction in the strongest possible terms.

Action: Deputy Mayor to ring CEO and put in writing that Mataranka Region Local Authority are appalled with this major staffing decision being made re:CSM being housed at Jilkminggan and servicing both Mataranka and Jilkminggan and the lack of consultation with either community. Moved Biddy Hamilton Seconded Tracey-Anne Wilson. Carried unanimously

7.2.1 **Finance** - Budget approved refer attached.

7.3 *Town Priorities:

Refer Attached : Deputy Mayor discussed the Multi-purpose Area and how breaking the project into stages would be a way of realising what has been a Town Priority for a long time.

Action: Sharon Hillen to action Plans and budget for Stage 1 that will include 2 Bowling Greens refer to list. Moved Biddy Hamilton Seconded: Veronica Russo Carried.

7.4 *Governance Updates: The Regional Plan has been approved by Council with amendments. Plan will be available in the next couple of weeks.

7.5 *Complaints Register:

Nil Received

7.6 *RJCP- Remote Jobs and Communities Program:

The RJCP report discussed, the report was tabled by Nerine Purton. Biddy Hamilton asked if future RJCP Reports could incorporate information that included KPIs. Also LA members would like to know why does it take so long for projects to commence.

Action: Invite Nerine Purton to the next LA meeting

Action: Invite David Jan from LGANT to the next LA meeting

7.7 *Night Patrol

Nil to report

7.8 *Alcohol Management Plan:

LA Members noted that due to lack of tabled correspondence for the AMP, LA members are not up to date with how the process has been going and feel it has been going on for too long with no concrete answers.

Extract-

“The selection of communities to support with development of an AMP is made jointly by NTG and AG senior managers after careful analysis of need and available resources. The communities selected usually come under the Stronger Futures NT Act. There is nothing to stop any community developing their own AMP though.”

Moira McCreesh

Senior Alcohol Management Project Officer

Alcohol Policy & Strategy

Department of Business

CEO to follow up 25/6/14.

7.9 *Policy Updates:

None to report

7.10 *Work Health and Safety:

Sport and Rec Grounds – The poor condition of fences and rodeo facilities are now a WH&S issue. Mataranka Region Local Authority request a letter be sent to the CEO requesting that due to the WH&S issues Council fix the rodeo facilities and fences at the showgrounds there is a Rodeo booked and LA Members would like the work completed in time.

7.11 Rates

Declaration Attached

7.12 Solar Lights

Are suitable for pedestrian areas rather than vehicle thoroughfares. LA members identified lights should go between Banyan Tree & Toilet block in Bruno's park either end truck parking bays. Moved: Bidy Sec: Veronica Carried

7.13 Better Half Club/Community Hall MOU

Meeting to be arranged to discuss new MOU. The Better half Club will meet with CEO, Deputy mayor, Sharon and Leah Niehus who is the Local Authority's Representative to discuss new MOU.

All LA members agree that the Community Hall belongs to Roper Gulf Regional Council, and any MOU should reflect that. Unanimous show of hands.

7.14 NT Govt Local Authority Grants

There was a discussion on how \$34,811 Local Authority Grant money should be spent and a number of items put forward for discussion;

Motion: That the funding should be used to upgrade the existing sports grounds and the Mataranka Local Authority direct CSM to investigate and come back to LA with a budget. Moved Di Angel Seconded Bidy Hamilton All agreed, carried

7.15 Litter and By-Laws

Bidy Hamilton asked why we have Litter bylaws when they are not being enforced, park opposite the hotel is a disgrace, what can be done. Deputy Mayor explained the difficulty with handing out fines and Bruce staff were not remunerated at penalty rates to work on weekend so were reluctant to do so.

7.16 Review of Local Government Constitutional Arrangements

Local Authority members were informed about the current discussion paper being prepared for the periodical Electoral Review that includes; principal member, wards, number and title of elected members etc

8. Other Business

8.1 **Golf Course:** Bruce Strachan discussed the reestablishment of the Golf Course and asked for LA support. Bruce has already got a petition together that shows a good deal of support for his proposal for a Par 3 Golf Course, For Community and visitors, it will become a community facility, either run by key or honour box system, most of the Infrastructure is in place but an upgrade would approximate cost \$10,000. It is anticipated some of the upgrade work can be done with a working bee and Bruce will approach The Sporting and Fishing Club for their input.

Action: The Mataranka Local Authority supports the reestablishment of the Mataranka Golf Course and asks that the Roper Golf Grants Coordinator investigates and identifies suitable sporting grants to apply for.

8.2 **A query about LA Allowances and if payments had been made.**

Action: Jo to check if each LA Member has received payments and provide remittance advice.

8.3 Local Authority members requested they be provided with a report from the Mayor with Meetings attended etc.

Action: Governance to investigate.

9. Next Meeting:

Tuesday 2nd September 2014

10. Meeting Closed: 8.205pm

Ad the Chair of the Mataranka Local Authority I confirm the Minutes for the Mataranka Region Local Authority are true and correct signed:

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Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane

* Denotes permanent Agenda items