

Beswick Local Authority Meeting Minutes



Held at the Beswick Motel Meeting Room
Monday 16th February 2015

Meeting opened at 10.40am by Cr Selina Ashley who has been designated Chair at this Beswick Local Authority Meeting

1. Present:

Elected Members:

Cr Selina Ashley

Local Authority Members:

Richard Kennedy

Sasha Ashley

Trephina Bush

Lorrain Bennett

Staff:

Helen Hawkins – Council Services Manager

Kristine Mulholland – Interim RJCP Coordinator

Hilary Sinfield – Governance Officer

Jo Nicol – Local Authority Coordination Officer

Stephen McKenna – Assistant HR Manager

2. Apologies:

Sam Ashley, Adam Bostock, Rayleen Bulambara, Deanna Kennedy, Joseph Brown.

Moved: Lorrain Bennett, **Seconded:** Richard Kennedy. All agreed by way of consensus.

3. Conflict of Interest:

Nil

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Richard Kennedy **Seconded:** Trephina Bush. All agreed by way of consensus

5. Business Arising/Action List:

Previous minutes action List was presented to Local Authority.

6. Correspondence

6.1 **Outgoing Correspondence – Nil**

6.2 **Incoming Correspondence – Nil**

7. General Business

7.1 Elected Members Report:

OCM was held in January the next OCM is in February at Mataranka. No issues to report.

7.2 Council Service Managers Report:

- Mowers in Katherine being repaired.
- We have a new RJCP Coordinator for an interim period of 6 weeks till we recruit a new Coordinator.
- Beswick Council Office is having the new desk installed today so we should be moving back to our usual premises within a couple of weeks.
- Creche has opened and landscaping was to start today. The cost per child is \$5.00 per day.
- The Sniffing situation in Beswick is getting out of control. Simon Stafford has said that others from other communities are here and need to be sent home. The local Police will assist but the community members themselves need to action this.
- A serious incident happened concerning a dog attack at Barunga to a Beswick elder. The dog situation is not getting any better and should we be doing something about it.

ACTION: CSM to write letter to Council on behalf of LA asking for dog By-Laws to be implemented in Communities. Also a written complaint to be sent to Roper Gulf Regional Council's Officer for action.

- More speed humps will be arriving this week to replace existing broken ones and to install at problem areas.
- Potholes are appearing and we will have to wait for the rains to stop before we can repair. We have the cold mix and are ready but we need the roads to dry out first.

7.3 Town Priorities:

Lot 57 ablution block has its solar light and we are waiting for the next stage of the resurrection. Concerns were made about people being able to access the block through the open area under the roof, install erect wire mesh to stop intruders. The toilet block will be locked after hours but will be available for church groups and for special occasions. Along with the light and toilet block will be wood burning BBQ's, concrete table and chairs and the stage repaired and made into a community area.

ACTION: Next meeting to discuss new projects for Town Priorities.

7.4 Governance up-dates:

Governance trainings for Local Authorities will be held again on the 20th April. All LA Members were given a calendar of meeting dates.

The Beswick Budget was tabled and discussed.

Governance Officer Hilary Sinfield gave a brief overview of the new Roper Gulf Facebook Page and requested LA members to encourage people to like the page so they can get regular employment vacancies, meeting and event updates.

7.5 Complaints Register:

Nil.

LA members were encouraged to use formal complaint forms at the Council office, these can be filled in and sent to Head Office to ensure continuous improvement.

7.6 Policy up-dates:

Nil.

7.7 RJCP Coordinators report:

Cert II in Horticulture for Woman starting in March and we have about 10 participants. Also Cert II in construction.

7.8 WHS:

Staff asked to have a breathalyser demonstration by Work Health and Safety Coordinator, Mathew Galloway and 15 staff were tested with zero readings. This will be the start of random breathy tests for our staff over the entire area. It was also pointed out some staff were driving on "L" plates. LA members were asked to let CSM know if any staff are seen driving when they shouldn't be.

6.10 A.M.P.

NT Alcohol Policy Project Officer, Moira McCreesh emphasised the importance of Beswick managing the AMP and making it their own. A group needs to take ownership of it or should the LA be that group. A final decision must be made at the next L.A. meeting.

Richard & Jenny from the Menzies school of research spoke to the LA Members about speaking to people about alcohol abuse and related issues. They are working on a project that will show what are the critical indicators of Alcohol Abuse in Communities and needed permission from a relevant group to come into community, employ a couple of people to help them survey people with relation to alcohol use and effects in community. Their research would then enable the community to identify issues and work on these issues. They are expecting to come back in May to speak to key people in the community and gather information. LA members signed the Ethics Permission Letter to allow them to come back into Beswick Community to talk with participants in the study.

8. Other Business

8.1 It was asked that William Roses and Joyce Torres be put as permanent agenda items. CSM noted that everyone is invited to add to the Agenda when call for Agenda items is done before the LA Meeting.

8.2 It was also asked if the gate at the entrance to Beswick be moved to the start of the Oval.

ACTION: Council Services manager Helen Hawkins to investigate if moving the gate at the entrance to Beswick is feasible.

8.3 GEC:

GEC have been busy with back to school. 1st of July the RJCP changes will come into affect. At this stage it is not clear what the changes will be but is expected to be stricter than what they are now.

8.4 A discussion was held around Local Authority Members attendance at LA meetings, LA members agreed that at the next meeting non attendees, without very good reason, would need to be removed from Local Authority.

9. Meeting Closed

Meeting closed at 12.10pm

Next Beswick meeting: Monday 16th March 2015

As the Chair at the Beswick Region Local Board Meeting held on the 16th February 2015. I certify these minutes to be a true and correct record of this meeting.

Cr Selina Ashley