

14<sup>th</sup> April 2015

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This meeting was opened at 1:15pm by Chair Helen Lee and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

**1. Present:**

**Elected Members:**

Cr Anne Marie Lee

**Local Authority Members:**

Helen Lee - Chair

Ruth Kelly

Scott Lee

Anita Painter

**Staff:**

Sharon Hillen – Director Council Services and Infrastructure

Jo Nicol – Local Authority Coordinator

Robert Campbell – Council Services Manager

Julie Kartinyeri – Regional Manager Sport and Recreating, Youth Services

Mary Cunningham – Sport and Recreation Coordinator

Lara Brennan – Regional Manager Community Services

Catherin Proctor – Director Community Services

**Visitors/Guests:**

William Rosas – RLGCS

Jodie Lock – Bess Price MLA

Joyce Torres – Dep. Prime Minister and Cabinet

Lidia DiLembo – Dep. Chief Minister

Moira McCreesh – Alcohol Management Strategy Unit

Samuel Blanas – Chairperson Northern Land Council (Via Telephone)

**2. Apologies/Absent:**

Jamie AhFat

Apologies Accepted, Moved: Ruth Kelly

Seconded: Scott Lee

**3. Conflict of Interest-Members & Staff:**

Nil

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Previous Minutes Accepted.

Moved: Ruth Kelly, Seconded: Cr Lee

## **5. Business Arising/Action List;**

Previous minute's action List was presented to Local Authority.

## **6. Correspondence**

### **6.1. Outgoing Correspondence:**

- Letter to NT Electoral Commissioner re: South West Gulf Ward Vacancy
- Letter of Support to ABA re: NAAJA

### **6.2. Incoming Correspondence:**

- Resignation Letter from Councillor Stan Allen
- Letter of Support for Roper Gulf Regional Council Funding Application from Department Correctional Services.
- Invitation to attend Kimberly Zone WALGA Forum "The Next Port of Call"
- Letter of Support Funding application Indigenous Community Volunteers

## **7. General Business**

### **7.1 \*Elected Member Report:**

Cr Lee discussed her recent trip to the Barossa Valley, South Australia for the Australian Local Government Association's Women's Conference. The Conference held over two and a half days showcased Women being an integral part of decision making in all aspects of Local Government. The Keynote speaker Political Journalist Annabel Crabbe was funny and inspiring and a range of other speakers tackled topics like Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Supporting Women in the Workplace.

Unfortunately due to the Cyclone and subsequent rescheduling of the February OCM Cr. Lee was unable to attend as she had a conflicting meeting.

The next OCM Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April will be held in Barunga, all Local Authority members are encouraged to attend and meet the Council.

Cr Lee also advised members that she attended the Roper Gulf Regional Council Audit Committee Meeting that was held in Katherine in April.

### **7.2 \*Council Services Report:**

#### **Council Service Manager Report**

CSM advised the LA members that new Works Supervisor Rex Ah One has commenced with RGRC and he has been working well with all the other Municipal staff.

Currently Barunga RJCP participants are engaged with the municipal staff and are currently recruiting for the RJCP supervisors.

In the past few weeks we have had a few complaints with regards to dog attacks in Barunga and in one case we had a dog put down by the Katherine Vet Care Services.

CSM is currently doing a Cert 4 in Government Investigations, making him an Authorised Officer under the Animal Welfare Act.

The Street light audit has been completed; Commercial Operations is looking into engaging a contractor to undertake twice yearly maintenance.

Pot holes around the community will be attended to as soon as we receive the Cold Ash compound that has been ordered.

Barunga has a Front end loader which is to be used in Barunga, Beswick and Eva Valley.

The Works Supervisor and Municipal crew will be doing tree lopping in the parks and gardens around the community. The Street signs will be up in the next few weeks.

**Work Health and Safety:**

Local Authority members were advised that RGRC WHS Unit has now a new officer Geane Massey who is based in the Katherine Office. Geane has done two Work Health & Safety Audits in Barunga Community.

**7.3 \*Council Financial Reports:**

Nil

**7.4 \*Governance Updates:**

**Town Priorities:**

Town Priorities were discussed and updated for the 2015/2016 Council Regional Plan.

**Local Authority Funding (\$43,000):**

It was decided by members that Funding would be used for:

- BBQ/Solar/park seating at Norforce and Train Park
- A refrigerated Water Bubbler for the Sport & Recreation Hall
- A Ball mitigation fence at the Basketball Court
- \$1,500 is to be set aside for fuel for sporting trips
- Shade for the Cemetery – Robert Campbell said Community was welcome to use the 2 large Council shade marquees for Funerals
- Tiered Sports seating, Catherine Proctor advised perk seating and Tiered seating can come under RJCP as a project

**Action:** CSM to get budget and present it at the next LA meeting

**Complaints Register:**

One dog complaint was received and it is still being resolved.

**Policy Updates:**

Local Authority members were advised that Councillors and Employees Travel Allowance Policy was updated with the decision from Council on 25 February 2015. All Roper Gulf Regional Council Policies are on the Website or can be obtained from Council Office.

### **Local Authorities Training:**

Local Authority members were advised that training for the LA members will be on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month at 10am. Representative from LGANT will be delivering the training on Roles & Responsibilities.

### **7.7 \*RJCP- Remote Jobs and Communities Program:**

The RJCP programme in Barunga was audited by Department Prime Minister & Cabinet who reported that the program is working well at getting participants signed up but projects need to be happening to keep participants engaged. Members were requested if they have any project ideas, and if so please let the RJCP Team know.

Some of the Projects offered were; Welding courses, helping Skinny fish with the stage upgrades and speaker brackets, cooking lessons, Art production and Art marketing training.

### **7.8 \*Alcohol Management Plan:**

The AMP was discussed and Moria McCreesh from Alcohol Management Strategy Unit, asked Local Authority members questions in regards to who they see as ultimately implementing the AMP. Cr Anne-Marie Lee and Moira McCreesh will hold a Woman's meeting to discuss AMP and its management.

## **8. Other Business**

### **8.1. \*Bess Price MLA**

Jodie Lock from Office of Bess Price MLA reported on behalf of Bess Price MLA who is looking into getting a new score board for Barunga as well as lighting for the oval. This will be dependent on funding from Sport & Rec. The Local members would be happy to donate a sausage sizzle as a fund raiser for sporting groups if the community would like to organise it.

### **8.2. \*Sport and Recreation Fleet:**

The issue of Sport and Recreation Buses was raised by Councillor Lee; recently the Barunga bus was removed to Katherine severely impeding Sport & Recreation opportunities in Barunga. Director of Community Services, Catherine Proctor advised that all RGRC Sport & Recreation buses are too old and are being decommissioned with the Council's decision. A funding application has been lodged with Aboriginal Benefit Account Grant Funding to get 4 new buses and if successful Communities will be able to book the buses for events as long as there is a qualified driver, bus is booked in advance, fuel and users were responsible for damage.

Samuel Blanas – Chairperson Northern Land Council attended the Local Authority Meeting via phone and reported that he have had discussions with Mayor Jack and CEO Michael Berto with regards to the decommissioned buses and an opportunity for a community group to take them on. At this point the Director of

Community Services Catherine Proctor advised Samuel that any request of that nature needed to be put in writing so that it could be presented to the Council.

**8.3. \*Dogs in Community:**

Local Authority member Anita Painter raised an issue with dogs getting into the school grounds.

Cr Anne-Marie Lee also raised an issue in regards to dogs at large getting in other peoples yards and its causing conflict's. The new fences installed don't have latches to close/lock the gate and fences are not flush with ground or sides of buildings, dogs are still getting into yards.

**Action:** Cr Anne-Marie Lee to raise the unsatisfactory Fence issue at the next OCM 30<sup>th</sup> April.

**8.4. \*NAIDOC Week:**

Moira McCreesh from Alcohol Management Strategy Unit advised members on NAIDOC Awards and Grants that are now available. Julie Kartinyeri, Regional Manager for Youth Services advised that Sport & Recreation deliver NAIDOC events in Barunga each year but there is a lack of participation. Grant information will be sent to staff and Local Authority Members.

**9. Meeting Closed 4.00pm**

The next Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2015

As the Chair at the Barunga Local Authority Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 I certify these minutes to be a true and correct record of this meeting.

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Chair – Helen Lee