

1. Present:

1.1 Elected Members

Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane

1.2 Local Authority Members

Sue Edwards

Diane Jones

Biddy Hamilton

Tracey Wilson

Leah Niehus

1.3 Staff

Catherine Proctor (Director Community Services)

Jo Nicol Local Authority Coordination Officer

1.4 Visitors/Guests

William Rosas (Department Local Government)

Surinder Crichton Senior Alcohol Management Project Officer, Department Business

Pledge was read.

2. Apologies:

Di Angel, Michael Cowan, Michael Solar.

Apologies Accepted, Moved: Biddy Hamilton Seconded: Sue Edwards
All Agreed.

3. Conflict of Interest-Members & Staff:

Nil

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Previous Minutes Accepted, Moved: Biddy Hamilton Seconded: Sue Edwards
All Agreed

5. Business Arising/Action List;

5.1. Previous minutes action List

LA members deleted; Solar Lights, Sport & Rec Announces Box and Portable Panels from the Mataranka Local Authority Continuous Action List.

6. Correspondence

6.1. Outgoing Correspondence:

Nil

6.2. Incoming Correspondence:

Email- Veronica Russo, Resignation from Mataranka Local Authority

7. General Business

7.1 *Elected Member Report:

Roper Gulf Regional Council will hold an election in the South West Ward after the resignation of Councillor Stan Allen. The Roper Gulf Regional Council Newsletter has new advertising rates. The Reconciliation Action Plan is now out for comment from the Local Authorities. The NT Government are overhauling Dog By-laws. Agency Services Vehicles are being traded in. The idea of Proxies for Local Authority Meetings was raised at the last OCM, it was decided that as members are now paid for their time proxies are not an option.

7.2 *Council Services Managers Report:

Report Tabled.

- Waste facility near completion. Rodeo Arena, old fencing has been dismantled and removed and will be repurposed around the town.
- New portable panels purchased and delivered. The new system will be in place before the Never Never Festival.
- Announcers Stand/RJCP, will shortly be demolished due to safety concerns. I have arranged for the sports and rec container to be relocated to the spot where the current announcers stand is and a new announcer's stand will be constructed on top of it with a set of stairs going up to it. The construction local RJCP participants from Mataranka and Jilkminggan who are currently completing a construction and infrastructure certificate.
- Oval Irrigation, Further funding secured for RJCP Participants to complete a Certificate I in Conservation and Land Management following the current course and as a part of this course the oval will be fitted with pop-up sprinklers that will save on manpower and operational costs. The materials will be funded by RJCP.
- Australia Day was a resounding success by all accounts and I would like to thank all who attended. I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Tracey-Anne on her Award. I would also like to encourage LA members to get involved in our local Civic Events as the more involved the better the event.
- The Borrella Ride arrived Friday 27th February. To mark the occasion the community was presented with a commemorative plaque that will be mounted on permanent display at the cenotaph near the Banyan tree. We were also one of only three stops that were gifted a full set of framed commemorative medals of Albert Borrella to be placed on display in the Museum or Office.
- DoI Roadsides and infrastructure, after numerous conversations with Department of Infrastructure about roadside slashing and other work we undertake including; roadside slashing maintenance of Martin Road,

Homestead Road and the Stuart Highway at Larrimah. I have been advised that they have had their funding slashed and that under current arrangements they are unable to proceed with the usual amount of slashing. As a result we are now awaiting their approval for late wet season slashing. I am continuing to follow this up with the Department.

- Solar Light round two, LA to identify dark spots for Round 2 Solar lights. Local Authority discussed the lights would go to Mulgan Camp.

Action: Mataranka Local Authority request CSM to arrange for an Irrigation Specialist to advise on irrigating the Oval to ensure the best job is done.

7.3 *Council Financial Reports:

Tabled

7.4 *Town Priorities:

Town Priorities were discussed and a date was proposed for a Community Meeting to discuss Town Priorities Tuesday 28th April at 6.30pm

7.5 *Governance Updates:

Local Authority Training will take place at the Hall on Tuesday 28th April at 4.30pm. Town Priorities meeting will take place on the same night after Training and BBQ at 6pm followed by Community meeting for Town Priorities.

7.6 *Complaints Register

Nil

7.7 *Policy Updates

Updates on Travel Policy for Staff and Councillors was approved by ordinary meeting of Council on 27 February 2015. All updated policies can be downloaded from the website.

7.8 *RJCP (Remote Jobs and Communities Program)

Catherine Proctor, Director Community Services gave a verbal report. Veronica Russo has resigned as RJCP Coordinator. Mataranka RJCP has been under performing currently working at 68%. Catherine is currently working with Michael Solar CSM to turn it around. LA members asked about KPI checks and how long it would take to recruit someone to the position. Catherine noted they were still looking at options for recruitment. The Mataranka Local Authority is extremely concerned that RJCP has not been performing for sometime and has been left unsupported by Head Office.

Action: Director Communities Services to report on RJCP progress at next Mataranka Local Authority meeting and detail what measures will be put in place to ensure it is running successfully.

7.9 *Alcohol Management Plan:

It was noted that the last funding application to the IAS for a Mataranka AMP was unsuccessful. Surinder Crichton, Senior Alcohol Management Project Officer mentioned that she could ask the Ngukurr and Jilkminggan AMP representatives if

the Mataranka Local Authority may be provided with the opportunity to see their plans. Surinda can supply AMP Guidelines and Templates to the newly form Community Safety Committee but can not work on a Mataranka AMP as it is not her brief. Police have moved the drinkers from the anti-social area. LA members are concerned that there is no safe area for people to drink and they are only being pushed into areas that could potentially be very unsafe.

Action: That the AMP remains on the Action List and Council continue to seek funding for a Mataranka AMP

Action: Mataranka LA asks that Council demand that the NLC make Land available for a safe drinking area.

7.10 *Work Health and Safety

A reminder about taking responsibility in the workplace and If anyone sees an issue please report immediately.

7.11 ANZAC Day

Deputy Mayor asked if LA Members would like to take a greater responsibility in Civic Events (Australia Day and ANZAC Day) starting with the upcoming ANZAC Day Breakfast. Bidy asked if they could communicate by email in the first instance.

Motion: That Mataranka Local Authority members take a larger role in organising Australia Day along with CSM as part of Community Civic Events. LA will do ANZAC Day Breakfast.

Moved: Tracey Wilson Seconded Bidy Hamilton. All Agreed

7.12 Racism

Not discussed.

7.13 Insurance re:Skate Park

Insurance status can be obtained from Catherine Proctor, Director Community Services on request. Council will ensure the correct signage is in place.

7.14 Dog By-Laws:

NT Government is looking at current Dog by-laws. Mataranka has been having issues with vicious dog attacks on other animals. LA members were encouraged to lodge a formal complaint through Governance. LA members asked who has had the Dog training also would like a copy of the Mataranka Dog By-Laws and who is responsible for managing the by-law? The Dog By laws can be found on the Council Website.

7.15 Australia Day

Discussed at 7.1.1 ANZAC Day

7.16 Op Shop

Local Authority Member Bidy Hamilton asked what was happening with the Op Shop project as many people had donated clothing and nothing has happened for 2 years. Catherine Proctor, Director Community Services noted that it was going to be an RJCP Project but unfortunately not enough people were interested in retail to make it viable. Bidy suggested it could be run by volunteers and Local

Authority Member Leah Niehus suggested setting up a Market stall at the Manor Markets.

Action: LA requested update on Op Shop

7.17 Anti-Social Behaviour

Covered in 7.3 AMP

7.18 Floating Position

Local Authority Member Biddy Hamilton asked what has happened with the floating Position that was advertised over 6 months ago, the Centerlink and Library were closed from December 12th 2014- end of January 2015. Why was the decision made to close both facilities for over 6 weeks and who was responsible for that decision.

Action: Director Community Services to investigate status of Floating Position and find out why the Library and Centrelink were closed for over 6 weeks to report back at next LA meeting.

7.19 Post Boxes:

Motion: That Mataranka Local Authority request CSM to obtain more Post Boxes.

Moved Tracey Wilson Seconded Leah Neihus. All Agreed

7.20 LA Funding: Due to Multi Purpose Funding not being successful LA Members moved a motion re: Spending LA Funding

Motion: That the Mataranka LA Funding for 2014/15 is used to purchase the Skate Park Module and the use 2015/16 LA Funding to pay for the slab it sits on.

Moved Leah Neihus Seconded Biddy Hamilton. All Agreed

7.21 Grant Applications & Guidelines/Acquittal:

Tabled by Deputy Mayor for LA members information.

7.22 RGRC Reconciliation Action Plan:

The Reconciliation Plan is now out for comment, Local Authority Members commented that Australia Day is an important day for all Australians to celebrate and should be supported by Council and added to the Plan.

Action: That Australia Day is to be added to the Reconciliation Plan and CSM is to be responsible for facilitating Australia Day.

8. Other Business

8.1 Communication:

Local Authority Member Bidy Hamilton asked when discussing Local Authority business by email can people please reply all so all LA members get the thread of discussion. All amendments to minutes need to be in writing and emailed to LA members when minutes come out. All LA Agenda items need to be qualified properly before going on the Agenda that is some information regarding discussion.

The Mataranka Library and Museum are in desperate need of upgrading. LA Members would like to investigate options to upgrade the facilities including digital options for customers. Museum is in need of upgrade including an iron roof for shade for the area outside and new story boards perhaps look at video formats.

Action: CSM to investigate funding opportunities for both Library and Museum upgrades.

Leah Niehus asked LA Members if anyone would be willing to take her position as LA Representative for the Hall discussions with Council and Better Half Club. It was agreed Leah would stay as the Rep. LA Members want to know what is happening with the Art Work and painting of toilets that was approved by LA and previous Local Board some time ago.

Action: CSM find out status of Hall, Toilets and Artwork and report to next LA Meeting.

9. Meeting Closed 8pm

Next meeting 5th May 2015

As the Chair at the Mataranka Local Authority Meeting held on the 9th March 2015, I certify these minutes to be a true and correct record of this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Judy MacFarlane - Chairperson