

MINUTES OF THE MATARANKA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD AT THE
MATARANKA COMMUNITY HALL, MATARANKA ON TUESDAY, 03 DECEMBER
2019 AT 5:30PM

1. PRESENT/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

- Mayor Judy MacFARLANE - **Chairperson**

1.2 Appointed Members

- Rachel WALTER;
- Sue EDWARDS;
- Margaret MINNETT;
- Diane ANGEL;
- Alan CHAPMAN;
- Michael SOMERS.

1.3 Staff

- Phillip LUCK – Chief Executive Officer;
- Mary RYAN – Community Services Manager;
- Paul BERTHON – Council Services Coordinator;
- Ashleigh ANDERSON – Local Authority Coordinator;
- Mandy DEVEREUX – Senior Administrative Support Officer;
- Maddison LEE – Community Safety Coordinator.

1.4 Guests

- Amanda HAIGH – Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development;
- Cheryl GOVEN – Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development;
- Sargent Thomas CHALK – Office in Charge – Mataranka Police Station;
- Peter KENNER – Super Intendant NT Police.

2. MEETING OPENED

The Mataranka Local Authority Meeting opened at 5:42pm with **QUORUM**. The Chairperson welcomed members, staff and guests to the meeting and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

3. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Nil

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1/2019 **RESOLVED (Rachael WALTERS/ Sue EDWARDS)**

CARRIED

That the Mataranka Local Authority:

- (a) Accepts the apologies from Local Authority Member Jill EMERSON-SMITH;
- (b) Notes that Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT and Councillor Ossie Daylight were absent from the meeting and did not tender an apology.

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2/2019 **RESOLVED (Diane ANGEL/Alan CHAPMAN)**

CARRIED

That the Mataranka Local Authority confirms the minutes taken at the Mataranka Local Authority Meeting held on 01 October 2019 to be a correct record of that meetings decisions and proceedings.

6. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Mataranka Local Authority.

7. CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 MATARANKA FIRE

Sargent Thomas CHALK and Superintendent Peter KENNON addressed the Mataranka Local Authority to discuss the recent fire event, and the problems which arose and advised on future improvements in the event of another fire emergency. Some of the identified problems were:

Communications;

Radio systems have been upgraded to a digital channel as opposed to UHF making communication between emergency services, residents and volunteers inconsistent.

Asset problems;

No current formal asset list of equipment available or location of equipment to use in the event of a fire. Access to the water was difficult due to the valve to release the water was inside a locked yard, with the key resting with PowerWater Corporation.

Moving forward, Emergency Services are updating the assets list, and seeking to recruit "backline" volunteers to assist those in the frontline. It was clarified that in an Emergency Roper Gulf Regional Council assets were available for use in line with Roper Gulf Policies and Procedures, and suggested that the First Emergency Response Group (FERG) hold semi-regular public meetings and that they be advertised to encourage residents to attend. No formal resolution was made.

7.2 POLICE MVR DUTIES

Concerns were raised regarding the announcement of Northern Territory Police withdrawing from providing MVR services to Remote Towns and Communities. Superintendent Peter KENNON stated the following:

- Northern Territory Police investigate the impact on MVR duties in remote towns and communities and found that providing these duties on a regular basis impacted response times;
- Clarified that not all services are being pulled back. However, these services will be dependent on Police availability and these services will not be prioritised over regular Police duties.
- Stated that due to liability and compliance, the Police will not be dealing with HR/MC licencing and registration, and those should be dealt with by people specialised in that field. Limited LR/MR functions can be performed depended on Police expertise, but may not be available in each community. However, regular car licences and registration checks can still be conducted provided that it doesn't interfere with Police work.

It was asked that the Police be supportive of remote residents, as services in some areas are severely limited, and it is not always possible for community members to travel into Katherine for MVR purposes.

7.3 MATARANKA POLICE

Police were questioned by the Local Authority regarding Police staffing in Mataranka, and the current issues surrounding alcohol and mental health in the Mataranka area. Police stressed the importance of calling 000 or 131 444 when issues requiring police assistance arise. No formal resolution was made.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION LIST

3/2019 **RESOLVED (Rachael WALTERS/Michael SOMERS)** *CARRIED*

That the Mataranka Local Authority:

- (a) Receives and notes the Action List;
- (b) Approves the removal of all completed Action List items; and
- (c) Allocates \$800(GST inc) of Local Authority Project Funding towards the purchase of 4 Chloe 3 piece steel decorative settings for the Mataranka Library/Museum.

9. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

10. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 ELECTED MEMBER REPORT

4/2019 **RESOLVED (Diane ANGEL/Sue EDWARDS)** *CARRIED*

That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member Report.

11.2 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

5/2019 **RESOLVED (Sue EDWARDS/Michael SOMERS)** *CARRIED*

That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes the Council Services Report for December 2019.

11.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICES REPORT

6/2019 **RESOLVED (Rachael WALTERS/Sue EDWARDS)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes the Community Safety Services Report.

11.4 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

7/2019 **RESOLVED (Diane ANGEL/Margaret MINNETT)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes Mataranka CDP Report.

11.5 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT - 31 OCTOBER 2019

8/2019 **RESOLVED (Michael SOMERS/Sue EDWARDS)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the month of October in the 2019-2020 financial year.

11.6 GOVERNANCE REPORT - LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER UPDATE

9/2019 **RESOLVED (Margaret MINNETT/Michael SOMERS)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority receives and notes the updated report on Local Authority Project Funding as at 18 November 2019.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 MULGAN CAMP PLAYGROUND

10/2019 **RESOLVED (Rachael WALTERS/Diane ANGEL)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority requests that quotes to install a shade structure over the Mulgan Camp Playground and costing for the installation of a Solar Light be investigated and presented to the next Local Authority meeting in February 2020.

12.2 COMMUNITY HALL USE

11/2019 **RESOLVED (Rachael WALTERS/Margaret MINNETT)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority requests that Council approves the waving of rental fees for use of the Mataranka Community Hall to the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services for the purpose of conducting Community Safety Action meetings on the condition that the hall is cleaned after use.

12.3 MATARANKA MOBILE PHONE TOWER

A discussion regarding the Mataranka Mobile Phone Tower was raised and the Local Authority members raising the issue of signal strength, noting that since the tower was upgraded to the 4G network, mobile phone reception drops in and out. The Chief Executive Officer agreed to write a letter to Telstra regarding the issue and to advocate for the repair of the tower. No formal resolution was made.

12.4 POWER CARD MACHINES

12/2019 **RESOLVED (Sue EDWARDS/Michael SOMERS)** *CARRIED*
That the Mataranka Local Authority requests that the Chief Executive Officer engages with the company that owns the machines to recharge the power cards regarding issues with the machine malfunctioning.

13. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 7:47pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the Minutes of the Mataranka Local Authority Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, 3 December 2019 and will be confirmed at the next meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judy MacFarlane', is written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Judy MacFARLANE
Confirmed on 4 February 2020

