

LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 55 631 460 952



Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council at the Lockhart River Council Chambers.

Date: 31st October 2024

MINUTES

- Present:** Cr Wayne Butcher
Acting Mayor Cr Alister Bowie
Cr Krystal Dean
Cr Steven Bally
- Apologies:** Cr Dorothy Hobson – In Cairns with sick mother
- Visitors:** nil
- Opening and Venue:** Acting Mayor Bowie opened the meeting at 10:3 5am.
- Conflict of Interest:** No new conflicts were reported at this point however Councilors were encouraged to review their circumstances and make amendments to their disclosures as necessary.
- Issue:** Mayor Butcher has kept Council up to date on developments with him and has offered valuable guidance to Acting Mayor Bowie. He advised Council he is ready to resume his full responsibilities again. He thanked Cr Bowie for his professional guidance of the Community in his absence.
- Resolution 1:** That Cr Wayne Butcher resume the full functions of Mayor.
- Moved:** Cr A. Bowie **Seconded:** Cr S. Bally
All in favour Motion passed
- Issue:** Minutes of the meeting of the 17th of September 2024 were tabled and discussed.
- Resolution 2:** That the minutes of the meeting of the 17th of September 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.
- Moved:** Cr Alister Bowie **Seconded:** Cr K. Dean
All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Art Centre problems

The CEO briefed Council on matters of concern from the Art Centre where he has been playing a guiding and interpretive role with current Directors. A visit by Forensic Auditors and Arts Queensland is planned for November to progress the appraisal of financial affairs of the Centre. There appears to be a continued cloud over operations over the last couple of years under the leadership of the former Art Centre Coordinator. Many documents remain unaccounted for and unsupported demands are being made. The council will be kept informed as matters develop.

Issue: Financial Reports for August and September 2024

The Finance Reports for August and September 2024 tabled and discussed with guidance from Stanley Mugwiria, Corporate Services Director. Note the August financial reports were not available in the September meeting due to administrative priorities with external Audit.

Resolution 3: That the Financial Reports for August and September 2024 be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Cr K. Dean

Seconded: Cr S. Bally

All in favour

Motion passed

Issue: Civil Works update

Old Site Road program of works has been brought back on track thanks to better communication between Council and our contractor community. We are now on track to deliver the completed works between Old Site and Nundah and Nundah to Wachee. Team 1 from this job will remobilize to Pascoe Farm Road and work to complete the balance of the scope of works outstanding on that job. Culvert 117 continues to track well and should be able to be completed as long as the weather stays away until mid-December. The council's road team is making good progress now the new grader is fully deployed on the Portland Road South job. With good weather that job should be able to be completed this dry season if current production rates of 600m – 800m per day are maintained. Excellent result from Solly and Tristan. Note Council is in negotiation with TMR over an additional \$1m from ATSI TIDS that would see the bitumen over 117 and 91B if successful. Note QRA will be visiting on 13th and 14th of November for Resilience Planning and on-ground update of progress against scope.

Issue: TCICA meeting 6th and 7th November

Representation discussed and agreed Mayor Butcher will attend this forum on behalf of Council.

Issue: Festival discussion

The council had a long conversation on the 100-year celebrations and Paytham Malkari Festival. It was a great week with many highlights but most importantly it brought our people together. Maybe next time we will work on promotion to attract more tourists but that has to be balanced out with our ability to accommodate everyone. The volunteers and organizing committee will be recognized at our next community event.

Issue: Neil McMahon occupation Council DOGIT land

Neil McMahon remains on Council Deed of Grant in Trust Land without permission.

Resolution 4: That an eviction notice be issued to Neil McMahon to remove himself and anything he owns from Council's Deed of Grant in Trust area.

Moved: Cr S. Bally **Seconded:** Cr W. Butcher

All in favour Motion passed

Issue: School Advisory Board

Cr Krystal Dean notified Council about the new School Advisory Board being formed and that EQ were calling for nominations from interested parties.

Issue: Housing 10 year Capital Works Plan

The CEO led discussions on the housing capital works Plan developed in concert with the Department of Housing. Central to the plan is locking in funding for social housing delivery on to the new Sub-Division, accommodating the need for a rural-residential development, another 30 lot higher density social housing development, an aged care precinct, and an analysis of future government employee housing options. Tabled plan was distributed and discussed. Noting initial new builds of 3 residences in year one on the sub-division, followed by five per year until fully populated. Price points will be reviewed over time but are realistic at the time of writing.

Resolution 5: That the draft Ten Year Capital Works Plan be adopted as tabled.

Moved: Cr W. Butcher **Seconded:** Cr A. Bowie

All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Proposed housing tenancies and nominations to go on the Lockhart housing list as provided by the Tenancy Management Team were discussed and endorsed.

Issue: Women's issues

Cr Krystal gave a short snap-shot of what was happening around Lockhart for the ladies with the focus on events planned for pre-Christmas.

Issue: LGAQ Annual General Meeting

The CEO attended the LGAQ AGM in Brisbane and briefed the Council on the proceedings including a number of contentious resolutions on the formula applied to the distribution of grants for Queensland Local Governments.

Issue: Council closure over the Christmas period

The council considered options and decided to close non-essential functions from Friday December the 20th to Monday January 6th. Essential services to remain operational or on standby with the usual OT provisions applying.

There being no further matters to discuss the Deputy Mayor closed the meeting at 3:30pm.