LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 55 631 460 952



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

Date: Monday 22nd September 2021

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cr Wayne Butcher (Mayor)

Cr Dorothy Hobson (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Norman Bally Cr Alistair Bowie Cr Karen Koko

Absent: nil

Mayor Butcher opened the meeting at 10:15 am

Issue: Visitors – New OIC LR Police Sgt Steve Miller

Mayor Butcher led the welcome to community from Council and mapped out a number of issues from Council's point of view; Hot Grog, Police Liaison function, interface between the Justice Group/Women's Shelter/Men's Group; new Social Club, kids fighting etc. Sgt Miller gave a brief background on his career to date.

Mayor Butcher thanked them for his briefing and is looking forward to working closely with him and his team going forward.

Issue: Visitor – Robbie Corrie Jnr Apunipima HAT team coordinator

Robbie advised there is a Health Summit planned for Lockhart next June/July. The Health Action Team for Lockhart needs to be assembled and HAT guidelines and templates were distributed. A workshop for HATs is planned in cairns for October.

Mayor Butcher thanked Robbie for his briefing.

Conflict of Interest: Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared.

Issue: Visitor – Reggie Edmond Director Building Services

Reggie briefed Council on current projects and our building program going forward. It was noted as important as Council can only commence apprenticeships if continuity of work is a reasonable prospect into the mid-term. Several young people have made recent enquiries about availability of trade training. The CEO committed to raising the matter at the Technical Working Group meeting scheduled for next week. CEO also advised successful submissions that will see:

- o a new shed for Council's heavy plant constructed at the rear of the workshop;
- three toilet blocks to support the Cultural Precinct development;
- Stage and stalls for the Cultural Precinct;
- o Development of a new sub-division with new house construction scheduled for 2022 dry season.

Issue: Sports Field redevelopment project

Council was provided with an update on the Sports Field re-development project noting the need for natural sand to be locally sourced and used.

Issue: Budget meeting

Mayor advised the annual budget meeting will be held in the Cairns office on the 13th and 14th of July. All Councilors to attend.

Issue: Cultural Precinct update

Earthworks for dance grounds cleared and bought up to level. Still some work to do with the final design and location of various facilities on the main area. Camping grounds clearing work not yet commenced as the dozer is needed out west in the pits and roadside work. There may be some issues with Council's Planning Scheme and the necessity to also consider Cook Shire Council's scheme. CEO to investigate and report back to Council as information comes to hand. Program of works was tabled to inform Council.

Issue: Finance Report July and August 2021

The finance report for July and August 2021 were tabled and discussed in detail with Corporate Services Director, Stanley Mugwiria, who took questions in person on the trading position and annual trends.

Resolution 1: That the Finance Report for July and August 2021 be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Cr D. Hobson **Seconded:** Cr K. Koko

All in favour Motion carried

Issue: Final Audit Report

The Report to the Mayor produced by external auditor, Grant Thornton, was tabled and discussed for both the Council and Aerodrome Company. Deficiencies in the Post Office were noted and some internal control matters at the Aerodrome Company were acknowledged but the general findings were sound.

Resolution 2: That the Audit Reports for the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council and the Lockhart

River Aerodrome Company be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Cr A. Bowie Seconded: Cr D. Hobson

All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Covid-19 vaccination policy – visiting workers and government officers

The serious matter of keeping the community safe from the treat of a major Covid-19 outbreak was discussed in detail. Whilst some success has been had getting our local vaccination rates up there is still a long way to go and with our community wide medical issues, many of our residents remain vulnerable. Medical advice advises that those that are double vaccinated carry less risk of spreading the virus.

Resolution 3: That all visitors to Lockhart River providing a service must be fully vaccinated. This includes all government workers, NGOs, and associated contractors. On ground agencies providing a service in Lockhart River must also ensure their staff are fully vaccinated.

Seconded:

Cr D. Hobson

All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Mayor's Report Canberra advocacy trip with TCICA

Moved: Cr W. Butcher

There being no further matters to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 4:10pm