

# LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 55 631 460 952

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

**Date:** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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## MINUTES

**Present:** Mayor Cr Wayne Butcher  
Cr Dorothy Hobson – Deputy Mayor  
Cr Karen Koko  
Cr Alistair Bowie  
Cr Norman Bally

**Visitors:** Margie Barnes – Com Dev

**Opening and Venue:** Mayor Cr Wayne Butcher opened the meeting at 10:20

**Conflict of Interest:**

Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared. No new conflicts advised

**Issue:** **Minutes of the meeting of the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2023**

Minutes for the meeting of the meeting of the 31<sup>st</sup> of January were tabled and discussed in detail.

**Resolution 1:** That the minutes for the meetings of the 31<sup>st</sup> of January be adopted as tabled.

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

**All in favour**

**Motion passed**

**Issue:** **Recreation Precinct – Changing Rooms**

Council discussed the desperate need for a uni-sex change room at the Recreation Precinct. With the renovated Football field about to plan its grand opening, which delivers Lockhart the opportunity to, once again, host Cape Cluster Rugby League rounds and inter-community women's sports. The absence of change rooms creates an unnecessary barrier to full community participation. This is particularly the case for our women and girls who abstain from participation due the lack of culturally appropriate, fit for purpose facilities. Installation of a suitable facility will increase amenity and maximize participation in sport and recreation activities.

**Resolution 2:** That Council scan all funding options to secure resources necessary to install a fit for purpose unisex change room facility in the Recreation Precinct that can service the needs of both Lockhart and visiting teams.

**Moved:** Cr: W. Butcher                      **Seconded:** Cr D. Hobson

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All in favour

Motion passed

**Issue: Community Safety Planning and Hot Grog Strategy**

Council will host a review of the community Safety Plan and discuss mechanisms available to restrict the damage caused by the illegal sale of alcohol in Lockhart River. Independent facilitators will be engaged to lead the cross community discussion that will have formal and informal elements to it. The consultants will meet with all Community agencies as well as the general public. They will produce a report on their findings for presentation to Council and form the basis of our Thriving Communities application and hot grog harm reduction project. Consultations to occur in the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.

**Issue: Cultural Precinct project**

Ceo gave Council a briefing on progress and issues affecting the delivery of the Cultural Precinct project by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. There are some elements of the project delivery that have been impacted by the weather. Most concerning is the installation of the Septic Tanks but also some building elements and the final trim to the drainage design. The building elements should not present a long-term problem as long as our tradespeople return as planned. Options on the installation of the Septic tanks are still being worked through. Council discussed the potential for hosting a festival this year and the 21<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of September was identified as a practical target for an inaugural event. Festival branding and marketing needs to be considered as do the need for harmony between similar festivals (Laura Dance Festival 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July and TI Festival 30<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June). Significant tombstone unveiling on 22<sup>nd</sup> of July.

An unknown event at this point remains the opening of the Isaac “Chalpy” Hobson Field. QRL to notify Cape Cluster dates when to hand.

**Issue: Community Development – Margie Barnes attending**

Margie provided a brief to Council on all Com Dev activities. Troy Caser-Daly will be in at some point this dry season. Date to be advised. The Sport and Recreation Officer’s position remains unfilled. Mayor thanked Margie for her briefing and for assisting with our compliance.

**Issue: Social Club transition away from Council financial support 30th June 2023.**

Council confirmed they will cease financial support at 30<sup>th</sup> of June this year. The need for a transition plan was discussed with a commitment made to work closely with the Social Club board on the plan. All efforts must be made to increase turn-over and profitability going forward. Financial literacy training for the Board would help this process and raise their awareness of what they need to expect from their Social Club Manager and other staff.

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**Issue: Business Hub**

The Business Hub development is proceeding reasonably well located at the Multi-Purpose Centre (near the shop). The old meeting/training room is being converted into a fit for purpose business support Centre and will be able to provide fast internet access for our business community and a safe place to store essential business records. Signage/branding is being developed and a formal opening event will be held once the final elements have been installed and tested. Business Support and Development Officer, Jermaine Thomas, will advise on progress and potential opening dates.

**Issue: International Women's Day event**

Cr Koko briefed Council on the up-coming International Women's Day event to be held at the Social Club. Council will work with the Puuya Foundation and others to assist with resourcing etc. A charge of \$40/head is being contributed by the attendees.

**Issue: Financial Report**

Note Corporate Services Director, Stanley Mugwiria, has just returned from extended leave so the March meeting will see the Finance Report for January and February tabled. No report available for this meeting.

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