

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: Thursday 5th of October 2023

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Cr Wayne Butcher
Cr Dorothy Hobson – Deputy Mayor (Delayed at clinic)
Cr Karen Koko
Cr Norman Bally
Cr Allister Bowie

Visitors:

Opening and Venue: Mayor Cr Wayne Butcher opened the meeting at 10:15

Conflict of Interest:

Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared. One new conflict was advised.

CEO advised his son, Callum Clarke trading as Faraway Fishing Pty Ltd, has provided concreting/culvert assistance to the council team on culvert 117 starting on the 23rd of September. The CEO took no part in his recruitment to the team and has amended his Related Parties conflict declaration accordingly effective 23/09/2023.

Issue: **Minutes of the meeting of the 23rd of August 2023.**

Minutes for the meeting of the meeting of the 23rd of August 2023 were tabled and discussed in detail.

Resolution 1: That the minutes for the meetings of the 23rd of August 2023 be adopted as tabled.

Moved: **Cr N. Bally** **Seconded:** **Cr A. Bowie**

All in favour

Motion passed

Issue: Visitors – Community Development Director, Jamie Love, Justice Group Coordinator, Doug Williams, IOC Lockhart River Police, Sgt Jake Heffner.

The hot grog strategy funding was discussed with the draft budget developed by the community-working group tabled for consideration. Prominent in the budget was the funding of grog friendly events which include the Isaac “Chalpy” Hobson field opening and the Paytham Malkari Festival. In addition, Police resourcing levels were discussed across the Cape in relation to interception of commercial quantities of alcohol destined **for black**

market resale. Doug advised JP training was needed to bring local people up to magistrate's Court standard. This has been scheduled for some time but training is difficult to source. The Justice Group needs to recruit new members who will pass a Police Check. Further review of our Local Laws should be scheduled in for 2024. This will particularly relevant if the Community successfully attracts Ranger Funding.

Mayor Butcher thanked Sgt Haffner, Jamie and Doug for their presentation.

Issue: Paytham Maklari Festival

Preparations continue to complete the last construction elements. Electrical work, plumbing and drainage still to be finalized along with grassing and landscaping. Kawadji Wimpa to meet regularly to drive the opening celebrations and event activity. Groote Eyland to be invited along with Yarrabah, Pormpuraaw, and Bamaga. Stage needs to be erected and the Food trailer and office and 1st aide room relocated to site. Reggie will lead construction elements. Kawadji Wimpa to be encouraged to lead the process and

Issue: Visitors – Torres and Cape Health delegation

The delegation briefed Council on health related activities within their region including announcing their intention to build a new Clinic in 2025. The delegation acknowledged the good relationship they had with Council via Cr Koko and DON Stafford. Council queried the puzzling role going forward of Apunipima in Lockhart given they no longer provided services to our Community. Does Lockhart have the option of accessing services using the budget saving this service reduction would provide? Council emphasized the need to consider hemodialysis in any infrastructure expansion. The data sets presented still revealed a large gap in life expectancy across Cape York which was concerning to all. The lack of on ground addiction counselling and psychiatric services was noted.

Mayor Butcher thanked the delegation for their presentation.

Issue: Meeting pending LGAQ AGM Gladstone– Mayor advised of the following and called for Councilors to nominate for attendance representing Council;

- LGAQ Annual General Meeting at Gladstone 16th – 18th October.

Issue: Women's Group meeting feedback – Cr Karen Koko

Cr Koko briefed Council on Women's Group activities including the survey that is currently being conducted among the women of Lockhart. Council noted the renovations at the Shelter have now been completed and it is once again available to operate at full capacity.

Issue: Invoices requiring Council endorsement as per Council's financial delegation structure

FB Luke (trading as Milik Pty Ltd) certified by Black and More \$963804.58

NS Contracting FNQ PTY LTD (Certified by Black and More) Kuttini st \$780240.51

Council considered and approved these financial arrangements be endorsed.

Resolution 2: That the payments to FB Luke trading as Milik Pty Ltd for 963804.58 and NS Contracting FNQ for \$780240.51 be approved for payment.

Moved: Cr W. Butcher Seconded: Cr A. Bowie
All in favour

Issue: Isaac Hobson Field – Official opening

The official opening is planned for 10 November. Invitations to visiting teams need to be considered along with an events plan for the carnival. Jamie Love and the Community Development team to lead the way on this initiative given they look after Sport and Recreation. Free BBQ for all attendees with Ladies softball to be followed by juniors then seniors rugby league. Council agreed to role the usual DOGIT Day celebrations, scheduled for the 29th of October, into the opening day for the Sports field.

Issue: Financial Reports for September 2023

The Finance Reports for September 2023 was tabled and discussed with interpretative analysis from Stanley Mugwiria.

Resolution 3: That the Finance Reports for September 2023 be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Cr W. Butcher Seconded: Cr A. Bowie
All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Neil McMahon unauthorized access of DOGIT and Traditional lands

Neil MacMahon is again seeking to establish a camp on Council owned DOGIT land without traditional owner consent. Council discussed the matter and requested the CEO reach out to him and make sure all details of any proposed development are presented to Council in advance of any work commencing.

Issue: Up-coming Tombstone openings and Council assistance

Council noted the influx of outside family coming to Lockhart for these ceremonies will need to be considered. CEO to talk to HACC re accommodation support. Council has provided free concrete to each family and assisted in other ways where possible.

Issue: New staff housing

Priority will be given to the recruitment of an Engineer, Electrician, and an “in house” IT resource.

There being no further matters to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 3:15pm.