

# **LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL**

ABN 55 631 460 952



## **Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council at the Cairns Office, 7 Anderson St Cairns.**

**Date:** Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020.

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## MINUTES

**PRESENT:**

Cr Wayne Butcher (Mayor)  
Cr Dorothy Hobson (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Karen Koko  
Cr Norman Bally  
Cr Allistair Bowie

Mayor Butcher opened the meeting at 10:00 am

**Conflict of Interest:** Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared. No new declarations were made.

Mayor Butcher emphasized the need to be constantly reviewing declarations to make sure everything is included and recorded in the relevant registers including related parties.

**Issue:** **Minutes of the meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2020**

Minutes for the meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 were tabled and discussed in detail.

**Resolution 1:** That the minutes for the meetings of the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 be adopted as tabled.

**Moved:** Cr. K. Koko      **Seconded:** Cr. D. Hobson  
All in favor      motion passed

**Issue:** Justice Group activities

The Justice Group is gradually developing momentum and has recently held a series of meetings with new and old members. They are working very closely with the court and families of kids who are getting into bad habits. There is still a long way to go but it was good to note that activity is increasing, and we seem to be learning well from how other communities organize their Justice processes. Council observed that we will need the Community Development team to work hard over the school holiday period keeping the kids busy and entertained. The CEO mapped out the proposed program and relevant resourcing allocated to the tasks and events.

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**Issue:** **Important funerals coming up**

Council discussed the recent loss of two significant Elders in Mrs Accoom and Mr Butcher and the community focus on paying them the respect they deserve and the resourcing associated with that. Mayor noted the new Marquees and chairs should be on hand to support family during this sad time.

**Issue:** **Kids Christmas Party**

Council discussed the annual Kids Christmas party and nominated Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup> in front of the shop as the time and venue for the event. Community Development has already got gifts on-site and will work across its business units to get everything wrapped and ready for presentation on the day.

**Issue:** **Social Club soft opening**

Council is keen to get the Social Club up and running as soon as practically possible and wants to pursue the possibility of holding two event licensed trading sessions on Christmas eve and New Years eve. Mayor Butcher requested the CEO investigate these options and do everything possible to hit the date targets. The CEO advised early discussions with Liquor Licensing on the notion of event based licensing were positive noting the premises and security options would have to be sufficiently progressed to get endorsement from the Lockhart River police.

**Issue:** **Cultural Precinct progress**

Council discussed its on-going concern around the lack of progress to secure the land required to roll out the Cultural Precinct project. The project must be in place by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 so time is of the essence. Discussion continued with the possibility of an “up-front” incentive payment being considered.

**Resolution 2:** That Council approach Cape York Land Council with an offer of an “up-front” incentive payment of \$100 000.00 to the Nyiumuchin Kanthanumpu Aboriginal Corporation designed to secure project commencement approval for the Cultural Precinct development.

Moved: Cr W. Butcher

Seconded:

Cr D. Hobson

All in favour

Motion passed

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**Issue: Memorial recognition for the victims of the March 11<sup>th</sup> 2020 plane crash on Quintell Beach.**

Council discussed a memorial or recognition ceremony to observe the first anniversary of the 2020 fatal plane crash on Quintell Beach on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Butcher asked the CEO to approach the Housing Department on a joint approach to memorial activities should it be the wish of the families of the deceased. The CEO committed to report back to Council early in the new year.

**Issue: Finance Report for September - October 2020**

Council welcomed Corporate Services Director, Stanley Mugwaria, to discuss the detail of the Finance Reports for September to November. Note that this approach is not standard practice and was forced on to Council by failed communications in the Lockhart office at the meeting of October 28<sup>th</sup>. The three-month trading period was discussed in detail noting that the record civil works year has called on Council to under-write the financial requirements of delivery secure in the knowledge that these funds would be reimbursed by our funding partners. Further, it was noted Council had the capital to be able to operate under this deficit model. An option that was not available six or seven years ago. The results for Aerodrome Company were encouraging recording a small loss after depreciation. Not in profit yet but encouraging given the predicted strong 2021 dry season bookings.

**Resolution 3:** That the Finance Reports for the period September to November 2020 are accepted as tabled.

Moved Cr N. Bally                      Seconded: Cr K. Koko  
All in favour                              Motion passed

**Issue: Sports Field Redevelopment and Social Club project update**

Social Club: Need names for the overall complex and also internal and external features. Recognition of our Elders who helped build the place would be in keeping with the Club's 'whole of community' ownership. Names for Bar, Kitchen, stage areas etc with plaques/signage for same. Community meeting scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> of January should provide guidance on these issues.

Sports Field: Need lighting plan from Back and More and final confirmation that the old light poles are fit for re-use. Council can then start to work with PJ Electrical on the extraction of the poles and preparation for both civil works and re-location of the poles.

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**Issue:** Use of HACC to support accommodation requirements of funerals.

The use of HACC facilities to support funerals is causing a problem with the need to keep our Guesthouse presentable and ready for paying guests. Guests are currently paying \$175.00/night for facilities that on a Monday after a funeral are not ready for occupation. This is chasing paying guests to other providers, often in the neighboring Shire, and places an unfair burden on the HACC ladies who take great pride in their work. Mayor Butcher noted that when attending funerals in other communities no facilities are provided and visitors are expected to pay for their own accommodation.

**Resolution 4:** That the HACC Guesthouse is no longer made available to support funerals and that this policy change be advertised so all families understood.

**Moved:**

**Cr K. Koko**

**All in favour**

**Seconded:**

**Cr. D. Hobson**

**Motion passed**

There being no further matters to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 4:35pm