

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Barkly Regional Council was held in Council Chambers, 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek on Thursday, 12 January 2023 at 1:00 pm.

Emma Bradbury
Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION

We strive to be responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens and empowers the people to be strong.

The Way We Will Work

We will make it happen!

We will be engaged and have regular opportunities to listen.

We will have strong policy and budgets to ensure our programs and services are progressive and sustainable.

Respect is shown in everything we do and we have acceptance of all cultures in the Barkly Region and their practices through a culturally competent Council.

We are a responsible Council.

We will be a responsive Council.

We want to empower local decision making.

We want to ensure that our services are sustainable and that our region has a standard consistent level of services.

We want to be able to sustain our environment – our communities, our physical places, our people and our organisational culture.

We will aggressively pursue additional funding from both levels of government to improve the standard of living of people across the region.

We need to be realistic, transparent and accountable.

Meeting commenced at 1.04 pm with Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin as Chair.

1. OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

1.1 Elected Members Present

- Cr. Jeffrey McLaughlin (Mayor)
- Cr. Russell O'Donnell (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr. Dianne Stokes
- Cr. Greg Marlow
- Cr. Lennie Barton
- Cr. Heather Wilson (joined Meeting at 1.09 pm)
- Cr. Pam Corbett (joined Meeting at 1.18 pm)

1.2 Staff Members Present

- Emma Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
- Damien Burton – Acting Director of Corporate Services
- Troy Koch – Director of Operations
- Gillian Molloy – Acting Director of Community Development
- Romeo Mutsago – Chief Financial Officer
- Jaymie Coleman – Assets & Contracts Coordinator
- Karen Legge – Corporate & Community Planner

1.3 Visitors Present

Nil

1.4 Apologies

- Raghavendra Upadhyaya – Director Infrastructure

1.5 Absent Without Apologies

- Cr. Anita Bailey
- Cr. Jack Clubb

1.6 Disclosure Of Interest – Councillors And Staff – Under Section 116(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*

1.7 Review of disclosure of interests – Councillors and Staff (to be done at each council meeting)

Cr. McLaughlin declared an interest in item 18.2, and will manage this by abstaining from the discussion relating to his interest.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION

That Council receive and note the minutes of the December 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Lennie Barton

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 1/23

3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 UPDATE OF PROGRESS OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOTION

That Council receive and note the update of progress of actions arising from previous Council meetings.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Dianne Stokes

Seconded: Councillor Heather Wilson

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 2/23

3.2 RATES CONCESSIONS FOR RATEPAYERS IMPACTED BY 2021-2022 REVALUATION

MOTION

That Council:

- i. Receive the late report relating to rates concessions
- ii. Notes that in September 2022 the council approved a rate concession to ratepayers impacted by significant rate increase
- iii. Authorises the CEO to provide a further concession upon application from ratepayers impacted by the recent revaluations that have had their rates increase by more than 15 per cent from the 2021-22 year, to waive any amount of rates that is in excess of 15 per cent above the 2021-22 rates for the lot. Applications must be made in writing and addressed to the CEO at ceo@barkly.nt.gov.au.
- iv. Adopt the attached amended Rates Exemption and Concession Policy to allow the hardship concession to all types of ratepayers.
- v. Waive the application of penalty interest rates for late payment of 2022-2023 rates for properties impacted by the recent revaluations, provided that the rates for that period are paid no later than 30 June 2023.
- vi. Notify ratepayers of this resolution.

RESOLVED**Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow****Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell****CARRIED UNAN.***Resolved OC 3/23*

Action: The Meeting requested that the CEO replace the word "individual" with "ratepayer" in section 2 of the revised policy.

4. ADDRESSING THE MEETING**4.1 PRESENTATION FROM FORTUNE AGRIBUSINESS****MOTION****That Council receive and note the presentation from Fortune Agribusiness.****RESOLVED****Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow****Seconded: Councillor Lennie Barton****CARRIED UNAN.***Resolved OC 4/23*

This Item was postponed until 2.00pm for discussion.

Mr Wood noted that he will be in Tennant Creek on 30 January and in Ali Curung on 31 January if Council wished to discuss any issues further.

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC*Nil***6. MAYOR'S REPORT***Nil***7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS****7.1 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MEETING DATES - 2023****MOTION**

That Council agree to hold an Ordinary Meeting of Council each month, and confirm the following dates for 2023:

| MONTH | MEETING DATE | MONTH | MEETING DATE |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| JANUARY | Thursday, 12 January | JULY | Thursday, 27 July |
| FEBRUARY | Thursday, 23 February | AUGUST | Thursday, 31 August |
| MARCH | Thursday, 30 March | SEPTEMBER | Thursday, 28 September |
| APRIL | Thursday, 27 April | OCTOBER | Thursday, 26 October |
| MAY | Thursday, 25 May | NOVEMBER | Thursday, 30 November |
| JUNE | Thursday, 29 June | DECEMBER | Thursday, 14 December |

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Dianne Stokes

Seconded: Councillor Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 5/23

The Meeting agreed to bring forward the December meeting to 14 December. It was agreed to conclude the meeting with a dinner for Councillors and the Executive Team to mark the end of 2023.

8. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Nil

9. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Nil

10. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Nil

11. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

Nil

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

14. RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

15. OPERATIONS

Nil

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

16.1 The Meeting acknowledged receipt of Cr Ronald Plummer's resignation on Friday, 16 December 2022.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

18. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

18 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

MOTION

That Council resolve to move into Closed Session.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Dianne Stokes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 6/23

18.1 APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT TO UNDERTAKE BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL 2023-2024 RATING STRATEGY REVIEW

The report will be dealt with under Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 51 (c(i)) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

MOTION

That Council

- i) approve the engagement of Mead Perry to undertake Barkly Regional Council 2023-2024 Rating Strategy Review**
- ii) move this resolution into the open section of the Council minutes.**

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Lennie Barton

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OCCS 7/23

The CEO noted that the recommendation arising from the Auditor's Management Letter relating to asset revaluation will be addressed at the same time as this rating review.

19. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 2.38 pm.

This page and the proceeding 5 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday, 12 January 2023 and are unconfirmed .

Jeffrey McLaughlin

Council Mayor

[Enter Date](#)

Emma Bradbury

Chief Executive Officer

[Enter Date](#)