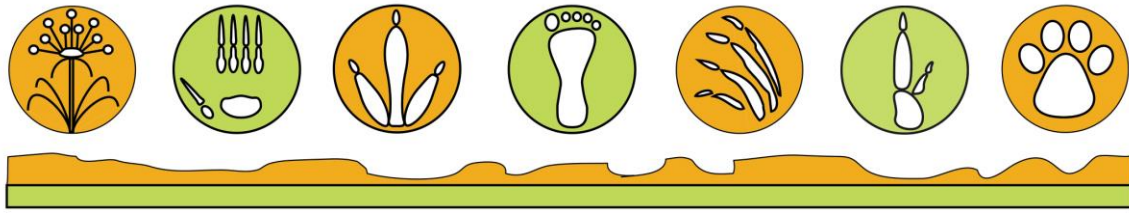


# BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



## 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, 23 February 2023 at 8:30am.

**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 8.40am 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 Seri Stokes (arrived at 8.51 am)
- Cr. Jack Clubb (joined at 11.30am)
- Cr. Greg Marlow
- Cr. Anita Bailey
- Cr. Lennie Barton (joined at 9.00am)
- Cr. Pam Corbett

### **1.2 Staff Members Present**

- Romeo Mutsago – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Damien Burton – Acting Director of Corporate Services
- Raghavendra Uphadhyaya – Director of Infrastructure
- Darren Lovett – Special Projects Manager
- Liza Taylor – Senior Administration Officer
- Jaymie Coleman – Acting EA to the CEO and Mayor

### **1.3 Visitors Present**

- Mark Blackburn

### **1.4 Apologies**

- Cr. Heather Wilson

### **1.5 Absent Without Apologies**

Nil

### **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)**

There were no declarations of interest made at this Ordinary Council Meeting.

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 2.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the Minutes of the January 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council as a true and accurate record of that Meeting.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 8/23*

### 6.2 MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - Councillor Jeffrey McLaughlin

*This item will be dealt with under Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 51 (c(iv)) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. The discussion may include information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.*

#### MOTION

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, I recommend that Council move into Confidential session to consider the following items:

- Executive Recruitment
- Leadership

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 9/23*

9.00 am: Meeting moved into Confidential session. All staff left the Meeting.  
Councillors and Mark Blackburn remained.

10.10 am: Confidential session closed, and the Meeting moved back into Open session.

10.11 am: Break for morning tea

10.37 am: Ordinary Meeting resumed.

## 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 in implementing the actions arising from previous Council Meetings.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 10/23*

### **3.2 JUNO EOI STATUS UPDATE**

#### **MOTION**

That Council

- a) Receive and note receipt of the Juno Expression of Interest (EOI) status update
- b) Move that any further discussion about this item be considered in Confidential session due to its commercial in-confidence nature.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Councillor Dianne Stokes

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 11/23*

## **4. ADDRESSING THE MEETING**

### **4.1 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SURVEY.**

#### **MOTION**

That Council receive the address from Health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (CoATSIS) - Australian Bureau of Statistics.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 12/23*

## **5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

*Nil*

## **6. MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **6.1 MAYOR'S REPORT - FEBRUARY 2023**

#### **MOTION**

That Council receive and note the Mayor's report for the period to February 2023.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 13/23*

## 7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

### 7.1 SHORT TERM CONTRACT: SERVICE DELIVERY SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the report.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Dianne Stokes

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 14/23*

Mr Darren 'Dusty' Lovett, the new Special Projects Manager, was introduced to the Meeting.

### 7.2 DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF LOCAL COUNCILS

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the report.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Jack Clubb

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 15/23*

### 7.3 REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the report.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Councillor Dianne Stokes

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 16/23*

## 8. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

### 8.1 PEOPLE & CULTURE REPORT - FEBRUARY 2023

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the report.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 17/23*

Cr O'Donnell requested information about the start date for the Community Coordinator/Area Manager.  
Cr McLaughlin noted a complaint received about low staffing at Elliott Safe House.  
Staff noted that recruitment is almost complete for two Area Managers (for Wutunugurra and Ali Curung)

## **8.2 FINANCE DIRECTORATE REPORT - YEAR TO DATE: 31 JANUARY 2023**

### **MOTION**

**That Council:**

- a) **Receive and note the Finance Report for the year-to-date 31 January 2023**
- b) **Advise CouncilBiz that Barkly Regional Council's preferred future accounting system is Xero**
- c) **proceed with transitioning from Tech One to Xero.**

### **RESOLVED**

**Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow**

**Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 18/23*

### **Actions:**

- Future Finance Reports to include graphs, and include information about outstanding rates.
- Provide clear information about Council's incoming revenue and outgoing expenditure to assist councillors to better understand Council's financial obligations.

12.00pm: the Meeting adjourned for lunch

12.30: the Meeting resumed.

## **9. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE REPORTS**

### **9.1 REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF HYDROGEN REFUELLING STATION SITE IN TENNANT CREEK FOR ARENA - FUTURE FUELS PROGRAM**

### **MOTION**

**That Council receive and note the report only.**

### **RESOLVED**

**Moved: Councillor Dianne Stokes**

**Seconded: Councillor Anita Bailey**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 19/23*

## 10. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

### 10.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT: DECEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2023

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the Community Development Directorate Report for the period December 2022 – January 2023.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

*Resolved OC 20/23*

#### Actions:

- Request for Gym income and expenditure report
- Request for audit of Sport and Rec program delivery in communities
- Request for audit of programs and service delivery in communities – what have we received grants for and what is being delivered?

## 11. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

*Nil*

**Action:** Request a report that outlines LA spending guidelines (what is and isn't permitted) for March meeting. Cr O'Donnell noted that the spending of LA funding should be a matter for the relevant LA, within the limits of the legislation.

## 12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Nil*

## 13. NOTICES OF MOTION

### 13.1 COMMONWEALTH POSTAL SAVING BANK

#### MOTION

1. **That Council** notes that:
  - a) Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia;
  - b) Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all;
  - c) A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses, and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services, despite advances in technology;
  - d) For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their local post office;
  - e) Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation, and charge excessive fees on transactions;
  - f) With four major banks controlling 80 per cent of the financial system, Australian consumers suffer from lack of real banking competition.

2. **That Council** calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal saving bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services – including deposit taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash- are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.
  
3. **That Council** will write to the Local, State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill through Parliament.
  
4. **That Council** notes that a community consultation engagement strategy is to be developed and submitted within 10 days of the endorsement of the Notice of Motion by Council 23 February 2023.

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow**

**Seconded: Councillor Anita Bailey**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 21/23*

**14. RESCISSION MOTIONS**

*Nil*

**15. OPERATIONS**

**15.1 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT**

**MOTION**

**That Council Receive and note Director of Operations Report for the months of January and February 2023.**

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Councillor Dianne Stokes**

**Seconded: Councillor Pamela Corbett**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 22/23*

Cr. Bailey noted that there are currently no Municipal Officers in Ampilatwatja. Council staff acknowledged that the reduced services are due to access issues with the wet weather and staff absences. Council is working with its partners and, as soon as access is possible, extra staff will be deployed from Tennant Creek.



## 16. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 16.1 BARKLY REGIONAL DEAL BACKBONE TEAM REPORT - DECEMBER 2022 TO JANUARY 2023

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the Barkly Regional Deal Backbone Team Report for the period December 2022 – January 2023.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 23/23*

### 16.2 COUNCILLOR WARD REPORTS & REQUESTS

Alyawarr Ward	Cr Bailey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nil</li></ul>
	Cr Clubb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nil</li></ul>
Patta Ward	Cr Marlow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Request for an update on the Meade Perry work and rates review status: how many ratepayers have taken up the discount?</li><li>• Request for graphs in the Finance Report</li></ul>
	Cr O'Donnell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted that Tennant Creek Fishing Club is having a fishing competition and would like to know how to book Mary Ann Dam.</li></ul>
	Cr Stokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Requested information about who has responsibility for maintaining the ablution blocks at the Cemetery Grounds in Tingkarli. Also request information about whether there is power to the ablution blocks. Action: Director Corporate Services to seek clarification on the management and responsibility and report back to March Meeting.</li></ul>
	Cr McLaughlin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted a complaint that Epenarra has not been receiving a rubbish collection</li></ul>
Alpurrurulam Ward	Cr Corbett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alpurrurulam Shire Office has experienced a number of break-ins. Request security doors and more surveillance.</li></ul>
Kuwarrangu Ward	Cr Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted that the large skip rubbish bins have not been emptied.</li></ul>
	Cr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nil</li></ul>

## 17. CORRESPONDENCE

*Nil*

## 18. MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

The Meeting moved into Confidential session at 1.40pm.

The Meeting moved back into Open session at 1.46pm.

**19. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting terminated at 1.47 pm.

This page and the proceeding 9 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday, 23 February 2023 and are unconfirmed .

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Jeffrey McLaughlin

Council Mayor

[Enter Date](#)

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Emma Bradbury

Chief Executive Officer

[Enter Date](#)