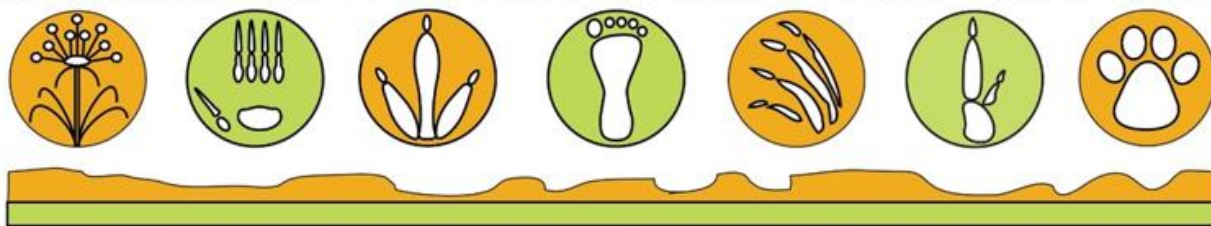


BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES Tennant Creek LA Meeting

Barkly Regional Council's Tennant Creek LA Meeting was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 19 September 2023 at 4:09 pm.

Russell Anderson

Acting 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.

1 OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

1.1 Authority Members Present

Meeting commenced at 4:09pm with Darrin Whatley as Chair.

- Darrin Whatley
- Anthony Picket
- Pennie Chester
- Heather Burton
- Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell
- Cr Greg Marlow

1.2 Staff and Visitors Present

- Romeo Mutsago, Deputy CEO and Chief Financial Officer.
- Tash Adams, Executive Manager.
- Lauren McDonnell, Senior Administration Officer.

1.3 Apologies To Be Accepted

- Troy Koch, Director of Tennant Creek.
- Len Holbrok - LA Member
- Nathan Mills - LA Member
- Rosemary Plummer - LA Member
- Troy Koch - Director of Tennant Creek

1.4 Absent Without Apologies

Nil.

1.5 Resignations

Nil.

1.6 Disclosure of Interests

Nil.

1.7 Review of Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of previous Minutes

2.1 Confirmation of 08 August 2023 Minutes

MOTION

That the Local Authority receives and confirms the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 August 2023.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Penelope Cowin

Seconded: LA Member Darrin Whatley

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/19

3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Actions from previous Minutes

3.1 Actions from 08 August 2023 Meeting

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority receives and notes the actions of the previous meeting 08 August 2023.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: LA Member Anthony Picket

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/20

Chair Darrin Whatley commended Barkly Regional Council staff on the agenda and action register. He noted the TCLA would like to relay to BRC that it is arenow moving forward in a positive way.

Deputy Mayor O'Donnell said it's all about recruitment and staff retention.

Close: Item 3.1 - Actions Arising - report received in this agenda.

Close: Item 6.3 - Fitness and Wellness Centre on the Action Register - report received in this agenda.

Close: Item 9.1 - Disability Pool Hoist.

In Progress: Item 9 - TCLA can supply a contact to BRC for PAWA - remains in progress.

Ongoing: 4.1 - CEO Report - Request for more information about street lighting on Karguru Road.

Ongoing: 10.2 - Footpath project. TCLA requests inclusion in any stakeholder engagement to inform priority footpath locations in Stage 1 of Footpath Strategy. TCLA requests Council to provide a timetable for stakeholder engagement and ask to be included in the consultation.

Ongoing: 10.3 - Footpath project (existing paths). TCLA to send a request to CEO to consider issues such as footpath connection, overhanging trees, path width and other features to ensure safe access for both wheeled and pedestrian use.

Ongoing: 10.5 - Water Bubblers. Report in this agenda.

Ongoing: 10.7 - Disability Pool Hoist. TCLA to request BRC to provide a report on compliance and capability of existing devices that have been removed.

Ongoing 7.4 - 1 Tank Hill Walkway Project. Report in this agenda.

4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Chief Executive Officers Report

4.1 Finance & Budget Support for Tennant Creek Division

MOTION

That the Local Authority receives a verbal presentation about finances and budget support to the Tennant Creek Division from Chief Finance Officer.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Anthony Picket

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/21

Chief Financial Officer Romeo Mustago reported the TCLA have \$214,000 available to spend. The key highlight is that amount is made of accumulative amounts. Unless commitments are made there is a risk of losing that money.

Chair Darrin Whatley said further to note that the TCLA has committed around \$120k so far of that monies and is about to sign off on the Pool Hoist and that's another \$34,000 plus freight. He said that totalled around \$160k committed by the TCLA so far. The TCLA is also currently looking at another two projects .

The Chair said there was a proposal from Barkly Vets as well, which they want us to table as well for ongoing things that have happened in the past and future.

Mr Mustago noted 23-24 TCLA funding has not yet been released.

5 FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report

5.1 Finance Report 01/07/23-30/08/23

The Tennant Creek Local Authority received and noted the Tennant Creek Local Authority Finance Report for July and September 2023 as per recommendation.

6 AREA REPORT

Area Report

6.1 Director of Tennant Creek Report

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority receives and notes the September update from the Director of Tennant Creek.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Greg Marlow

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/22

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

General Business

7.1 Tennant Creek Swimming Pool Hoist

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority:

- a) Receives and notes the report from Barkly Regional Council about the installation of the pool hoist.**
- b) Accepts the current quote.**
- c) Notify the Director of Tennant Creek to proceed with the purchase of the pool hoist.**

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Anthony Pickett

Seconded: Cr Greg Marlow

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/23

Chair Darrin Whatley said the update was the TCLA has finally gained a purchase order for this pool hoist. The hoist will be on its way directly once the order has been placed now the information on installation requirements has been received. The next step is to obtain installation quotes from businesses.

The Chair said the Director of Tennant Creek was trying to recover the original plans, and asked the Deputy Mayor if BRC have anything relating to the plans.

The Deputy Mayor said the problem goes back to the former Management of this Council and suggested the TCLA instruct Council to organise the installation.

The Chair said the CEO told him at the start of the year the TCLA was to do all the groundwork.

Deputy Mayor O'Donnell said the LA has completed the groundworks and quotes, and now it was up to the community to decide where they'd like it located. He said BRC can decide on fittings and logistics regarding installation.

LA Member Heather Burton joined the meeting at 4.29pm.

Heather Burton questioned previous minutes that the Chair moved the last Pool Hoist item when he previously declared a conflict of interest. Note the conflict of interest was not financial, rather the Chair's daughter would benefit from the pool hoist.

LA Member Heather Heather said if there is a perceived or declared conflict of interest, it is customary to remove yourself from voting.

The TCLA agreed there was no conflict at this stage.

Cr Marlow in a procurement point of view, if the quote process was carried out properly?
The Chair said it was the only quote available nationally.

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority select French Blue as the colour of the pool hoist.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: LA Member Heather Burton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/24

Cr Marlow reminded members that the TCLA is required to choose a colour of the hoist before ordering it.

General Business

7.2 Public Water Bubblers

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority receives and notes the correspondence from Urban about the CF200 Chilled Outdoor Drinking Fountain.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Greg Marlow

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/25

LA Member Anthony Picket said the dog water feature was an important inclusion for the many dogs around the town. The refrigeration may present an extra maintenance issue BRC will need to address and could be excessive.

Chair Darrin Whatley said everybody has drunk out of taps in our heat. "We all know what it's like when we work out bush and drink out of hot tap and have to run water for a while to keep cool. How much water is wasted to get to a temperature of drinkable water?"

LA Member Heather Burton asked if it was about insulation rather than refrigeration. Chair said the Acting CEO had previously installed these bubblers in Vic Daly Regional Council and said they had the same problem with hot water and the units were insulated.

There was no way the Vic Daly Council could sustain anybody safely drinking out of them due to the hot water.

Deputy Mayor said the allocated budget to the project is \$120,000 so the TCLA need to decide on what accessories to include.

Deputy Mayor said no quotes have been made available yet and suggested the TCLA decide what accessories are needed and ask BRC to obtain quotes for installation. He noted the water bubblers need to be installed on Council land.

LA Member Pennie Cowin said sites for installation also need to be decided.

LA Member Heather Burton said in addition to the very good suggestions of the Pool and the Cemetery locations, TLCA members should be reminded when the item was first brought up it was to benefit the more populated Community Living Areas (CLAs) and suggested locations en route to important destinations such as the doctors or shops.

Chair Darrin Whatley noted he was concerned about how many Dog Tap and Bowls were going to get broken or snapped off.

BRC Senior Administration Officer Lauren McDonnell added the company said the devices are fully customisable, so if the TCLA has a vision, they can work with the TCLA with ideas such as a guard around the tap.

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority:

- a) Requests Council to conduct a Public Consultation in regard to the water bubbler locations in Tennant Creek.**
- b) Include local Aboriginal organisations in the consultation process.**

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Heather Burton

Seconded: LA Member Anthony Picket

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/26

The TCLA will hold a workshop to decide which add-on features and colours after the two-week public consultation process.

General Business

7.3 Tennant Creek Park Report

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority requests Council to provide a more detailed parks report to include:

- a) Conditions of equipment**
- b) Upgrades required on existing equipment to ensure they are compliant with current standards.**

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Penelope Cowin

Seconded: LA Member Heather Burton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/27

Chair Darren Whatley said the TCLA should look at not segregating Tarca Park because it's considered a bad area.

He said the report needed to contain more detail to the standard the TCLA was seeking.

Cr Marlow asked did the TCLA wanted out of that report.

Chair thanked BRC for providing the report but it was different from what was wanted originally. It was noted when the item was first raised, that many of Council employees are no longer employed at BRC.

General Business

7.4 Fitness and Wellbeing Centre

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority receives and notes the update about the Fitness and Wellbeing Centre.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Anthony Picket

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/28

LA Member Anthony Picket said there was a lot of information and suggestions for improvement but the Director of Tennant Creek cannot make decisions on behalf of Council. Mr Picket and BRC conducted a survey and the majority of feedback was the Centre needs more equipment. However, Council was not sure if they want a gym in its repertoire and were not looking at spending money on it.

Deputy Mayor said there was appetite in Council discussion they would entertain the idea if someone wanted to lease or take it on as a private enterprise, however Council recognises it needs to provide the service to the community while deciding how to do it where money will come from. It would be a discussion Council would have at its Ordinary Meeting on 27 September.

LA Member Heather Burton noted in the report that if the TCLA contributed equipment, it was suggested Council could double the fees, and she would be opposed to a rise in prices which may discourage membership.

Mr Picket said the Centre's fees are really low, one of the lowest in Australia, and the idea was to increase it by a few dollars a week, and with new equipment, it would be reasonable to apply a small hike in membership price.

Chair thanked Mr Picket and the staff at the Centre for the feedback.

The TCLA will await the Ordinary Council Meeting resolution to see what the Council has come to terms with, and then the TCLA will work with BRC as a stakeholder in the Fitness and Wellness Centre.

General Business

7.5 Action Tracker for other Local Authorities

The Tennant Creek Local Authority received and noted the Action tracker for other Local Authorities

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority requests BRC to report back at the next TCLA meeting on the condition of the TC Swimming Pool and its facilities.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Darrin Whatley

Seconded: LA Member Heather Burton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/29

Deputy Mayor said there only one BBQ facility at the Town Pool and asked if the TCLA would fund another BBQ.

Chair Darrin Whatley asked if there was enough room for it at the Pool. Deputy Mayor said that would be a proposal BRC could supply to the TCLA.

Deputy Mayor suggested leaving with TCLA to table for discussion.

LA Member Heather Burton suggested waiting to see what comes back with the report on the Town Pool. She suggested evidence was required to support the need for a second BBQ.

LA Member Anthony Picket suggested to request the Director of Tennant Creek to provide an estimate from the recent BBQ installation at Hilda Park.

LA Member Heather Burton brought up a security issue at the Pool with the front gate and side gate for early morning swimmers, where items have been stolen because the main gate has been used but the side gate has been used also, and suggested pool security be included in the report.

Deputy Mayor said he could bring it up in the Council Meeting.

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority request BRC to provide an estimate to TCLA on the installation of a new BBQ and shelter at the TC Swimming Pool.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Darrin Whatley

Seconded: LA Member Heather Burton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/29

Deputy Mayor said leave on TCLA plate to have a discussion.

LA Member Heather Burton suggested to wait to see what comes back with the report on the Town Pool. She suggested evidence to support the need for a second one would be needed.

LA Member Andrew Pickel suggested to ask Director of Tennant Creek to provide estimate from recent BBQ installation at Hilda Park.

LA Member Heather Burton brought up front gate and other gate for early morning swimmers, when things have been stolen because the main gate has been used but the side gate has been used.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

8.1 Letter from NT Remuneration Tribunal

The Tennant Creek Local Authority received and noted the correspondence from the NT Remuneration Tribunal.

Correspondence

8.2 Email Summary of Trial Partnership BRC RN AMRRIC

The Local Authority received and noted the update from Elliott McAdam about the trial partnership between Barkly Regional Council, RN Employment, and AMRRIC.

9 OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

Other Matters For Noting

9.1 1 Tank Hill Walkway Project

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority follows up on the proposed idea of a walkway near Tank Hill and continues discussion at the next LA Meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Heather Burton

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/30

LA Member Anthony Picket asked LA Member Pennie Cowin about the progress with an update from Tourism Central Australia (TCA). Ms Cowin said Tourism Central Australia have been working on it for a while anyway. TCA is liaising with Legacy Mines, who were happy to come on board and put fences along cyanide pits at the top. It is a work in progress for them. The TCA's next meeting is not until the beginning of October but has been pushed back due to recent fires. Nothing has been returned to TCLA yet.

TCLA would like to remain in the consultation and be advised of the progress of that walkway and be involved in that as a community project.

LA Member Heather Burton highlighted the Bill Allen Lookout is a 10km/h zone but hardly anybody goes that slow, and recently was a nightmare when everyone was driving to the lookout to see the recent bushfires.

Chair Darrin Whatley suggested it be brought up as part of the consultation with Tourism Central Australia.

Other Matters For Noting

9.2 Tennant Creek Dog Park

MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority

- a) Request BRC go out to public consultation on the best use of Karguru Park.**
- b) Considers a location within the town boundary for a dog-walking park.**

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Penelope Cowin

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/31

Chair Darrin Whatley asked if the TCLA could do anything with Karguru Oval.

LA Member Pennie Cowin came up with idea of a dog park, in conjunction with what is happening around Tennant Creek and all the playground areas. The Chair and Ms Cowin discussed it could benefit Karguru Oval being a dog-walking park.

Ms Cowin suggest it could be like an off-lead dog park. "It is hard to take a dog for a walk around town at the moment. Mount Isa has two, one for large dogs and one for small dogs. We don't have anywhere and can't have them off the lead at the Lake. We have nowhere to walk our dogs safely."

Chair Darrin Whatley said it could also help tourism where visitors can take their dogs safely for a walk.

Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell suggested putting the Dog Park idea out as a public consultation.

10 REPORTS FROM BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

Nil

11 VISITOR PRESENTATIONS

Nil

12 OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION

That the Local Authority receive and note Cr McAdams email to Chair Darrin Whatley and:

a) The Chair write to Cr McAdam asking for clarification around the Councillor's accusations regarding Local Authorities.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Anthony Pickett

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/32

Cr Elliot McAdam forwarded an email on Tuesday 19 September at 12.50pm to Chair Darrin Whatley of correspondence to the Acting CEO.

The email was forwarded to around 80 other recipients.

The correspondence related to Local Authorities and animal management in the town: "*As a Council we must address in a coordinated way we cannot sit back and place the responsibilities on Local Authorities... We cannot hide behind Local Authorities as a means of doing nothing which is precisely what we are doing .. there must be a Barkly response .. not an ad hoc disjointed response based on personalities which has been occurring for the last 20 months .. more pronounced over the past 9 months .. and it's not getting better.*"

Chair Darrin Whatley said he would like to point out his displeasure with Cr McAdam's words.

13 CLOSE OF MEETING

The TCLA next meeting date is 4.30pm on Tuesday 14 November 2023.

MOTION

That the TCLA close the meeting at 7.00pm.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved TCLA-23/33

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Tennant Creek Local Authority meeting held on 19 September, 2023, and are unconfirmed.