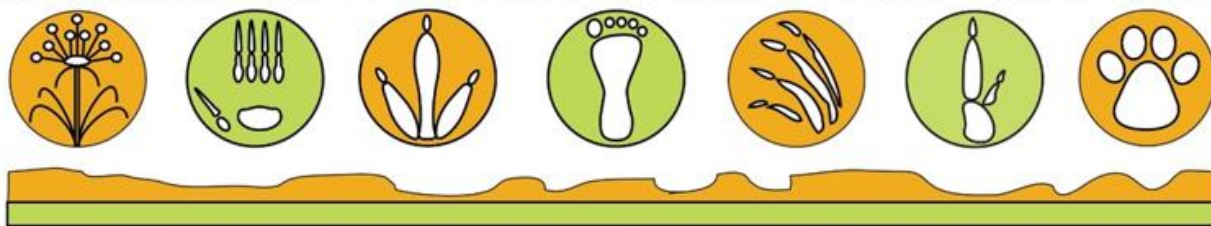


# BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



## MINUTES Tennant Creek LA Meeting

Barkly Regional Council's Tennant Creek LA Meeting was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 20 February 2024 at 4:30 pm.

**Ian Bodill**

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

The meeting commenced at 4:39pm with Darrin Whatley as Chair.

### 1.1 Authority Members Present

- Darrin Whatley, Chairperson.
- Nathan Mills, Deputy Chair.
- Anthony Pickel, LA Member.
- Penelope Cowin, LA Member.
- Len Holbrok, LA Member.
- Heather Burton, LA Member.
- Greg Marlow, LA Member.
- Sharen Lake, LA Member.
- Diane Stokes, LA Member.

### 1.2 Staff and Visitors Present

- Ian Bodill, CEO
- Peter Holt, Official Manager
- Ruth Morley, Official Investigator.
- Ryan Francis, Acting Director of Tennant Creek
- Brody Moore, Director of Operations and Remote Communities
- Paul Hyde Kaduru, Local Authority Coordinator
- Barry Nattrass, Work Health, and Safety Manager
- Lauren McDonnell, Senior Administration Officer Tennant Creek
- Karen O'Sullivan, Senior Administration Officer Operations and Remote Communities
- Harry Abrahams, NIAA

### 1.3 Apologies to Be Accepted

- Troy Koch, Director of Tennant Creek.

### 1.4 Absent Without Apologies

- Russell O'Donnell, LA Member.
- Elliott McAdam, LA Member.

### 1.5 Resignations

- Rosemary Plummer - verbal resignation received and noted.

### 1.6 Disclosure of Interests

- Nil

### 1.7 Review of Disclosure of Interest

- Nil

## 2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### Confirmation of Previous Minutes

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#### 2.1 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note the minutes of the previous meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

##### MOTION

That the Tennant Creek Local Authority receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held in Council Chambers on 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Nathan Mills**

**Seconded: LA Member Anthony Pickel**

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/46*

- Darrin Whatley noted from previous minutes on 14/11/23 that Len Holbrok was an apology. Request that the previous minutes be adjusted.
- Heather Burton asked a question about new members; Darrin Whatley explained the process. Starts with a request form from Barkly Regional Council and then comes to the Local Authority for consideration. Two members can sign off an application and then it goes to the Council for consideration. Len Holbrok had a question about the process and the relevant section in the legislation.
- Peter Holt had a question about the number of members.
- Sharen Lake raised a query about members from wards. Darrin Whatley has asked Sharen Lake to follow up for new members.

### 3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### Actions from Previous Minutes

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##### 3.1 Actions from Previous Minutes

###### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receives and notes the actions from the previous meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

###### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the actions from the previous meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.

###### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Dianne Stokes**

**Seconded: LA Member Heather Burton**

###### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/47*

- Installation of Murals: Peter Holt asks about the email for murals from Power and Water, Anthony Pickel will resend. Status: closed.
- CEO Report (Karguru Road): BRC to work on installing lights. Status: closed.
- Footpath project: BRC to include footpath project in the Regional Plan. Status: ongoing.
- Footpath project (existing paths): Request to be made for DIPL to present at next meeting. Black-spot assessment to be done by Barkly Regional Council. Status: ongoing.
- Water Bubblers: a community consultation to be held at IGA with members of the LA and BRC. Status: ongoing.
- Disability Hoist: the hoist has been ordered and is being manufactured by the supplier. Status: ongoing.
- 1 Tank Hill Walkway Project: project is still in discussion between Tourism Central Australia, Department of Mining, Mining Legacy, and DIPL. Status: ongoing.
- Tennant Creek Swimming Pool: BRC are conducting an assessment for pool upgrade. Status: ongoing.
- Tennant Creek Dog Park: question about dog park to be included in community consultation at IGA. Status: ongoing.

## 4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS

### Chief Executive Officers Reports

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#### 4.1 Chief Executive Officer Report

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

##### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Nathan Mills**

**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/48*

##### Work health and safety

The Barkly Regional Council is committed to providing safe and healthy working conditions to prevent injury or ill health for all workers and visitors on all sites it has responsibility for. With up to 200 staff members distributed across an area of over a 320,000km, the model of service delivery and compliance with ever changing legislation requires an innovative approach. The Work Health and Safety Manager, Barry Natrass joined the BRC team in April 2023 and has visited all the 6 major communities on at least 1 occasion to date. He will be implementing our WHS Plan to inform and assist all BRC workers to understand their obligations and duties under WHS legislation and fostering a positive workplace culture. Everyone has a right to a safe and rewarding work experience and all have a part to play in that objective. Continuous improvement is the aim and consultation, and cooperation are the means by which it can become a reality. The introduction of psychosocial responsibility under WHS legislation has raised the bar of responsibility for PCBUs but it has also served to underline the need for detailed analysis and consideration of safe systems of work and work environments. The Barkly Regional Council has the expertise and the will to be an employer of choice in 2024 and every effort will be made to earn this credential.

##### Regional plan

We commenced planning for the 24/25 Regional Plan this week. Official Manager and the Executive Staff met to discuss the initial stages of the Regional Plan for 24/25. Matters discussed included:

- Preparation of the slap maps for each community.
- Check outstanding items on the existing Regional Plan.
- What matters need to be considered for the future?
- What outstanding LA funds are available.
- What non-grant funds are available?
- What funding do we need to apply for?
- Community workshops.

What does this mean for your community? It means that you should provide us with your thoughts on future plans for your community, for consideration and if implemented, final adoption by council.

### **Risk and Audit management**

The Audit and Risk function has been moved over to the Chief Financial Officer, from the Manager Governance and Compliance. It is envisaged that this function belongs in that portfolio. Finalisation of membership will be dealt with in a separate report.

### **Website update**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Regular Policy Updates**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Annual Calendar Updates**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Asset Management Plan**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Budget Preparedness**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Leave Preparedness**

The CEO will provide an update.

### **Local Authority Meetings**

The CEO will provide an update.

- Barry Natrass provided an update for WHS. The process is ongoing but there have been inductions for staff and education/consultation planned for staff and communities. The BRC WHS policy is being reviewed.
- Ian Bodill has said that the Regional Plan is in process and that all LA's will have a chance to discuss before the final document is approved.
- The BRC website is being reviewed and an update will be worked on. Part of this update will include a calendar of BRC dates, that is to be kept up to date.
- Ian Bodill noted that the budget for BRC is to be set by 30th of June 2024.
- Ian Bodill informed the TCLA that he will be retiring at the end of March. Recruitment for a new CEO to commence in March. Jeff MacLeod to be new Acting CEO.

## Chief Executive Officers Reports

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### 4.2 Official Manager's Report

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note the Official Manager's Report.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Official Manager's Report.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Heather Burton

**Seconded:** LA Member Anthony Pickel

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/49*

#### Official Manager Local Authority Report

##### Official Management and Investigation

Introduction and explanation of the role of the **Official Manager** (in the place of the Barkly Regional Council) during the suspension of the Council pending an investigation into the councils' processes and procedures from January 1, 2022 to October 16, 2023.

The **Investigation**, is to be undertaken by Alice Springs based lawyer Ruth Morley, and will conclude on 12 March 2024, after which time anyone referred to in the report will be given three weeks to respond. Based on the outcome of the investigation and responses received the Minister for Local Government will determine whether to reinstate or dismiss the council.

##### Barkly Regional Advisory Group

Through the establishment of the Barkly Regional Advisory Committee the suspended councillors will remain engaged during the investigation and will assist with budget planning and priorities for the 2024-25 Regional Plan. The first meeting of the BRAC was held on January 30, 2024.

##### Action Register

With regard to BRC council meetings there is concern that LA recommendations and requests for information were being put to the Barkly Regional Council (BRC) by the Local Authorities (LA) for noting but not for action. We are now developing a Register for each local authority which lists requests for meetings, briefings or funding and this action list will be presented at each LA meeting. There needs to be a two-way exchange of information, not one-way from LA to Council with no feedback.

##### Regional Plan 2024-25

The BRC is commencing the planning for the development of the Barkly Regional Council Regional Plan for 2024-25. To do this we will seek input from local authorities on three matters:

- What do the LA wish to pursue with their own available funds?
- What are the priorities they want BRC to commit to in their community? and,
- What do you want BRC to seek funding for or to advocate on behalf of their community?

### **Unallocated Funds**

Approximately \$800,000 of LAPF funds across the region are at risk of being returned, unspent, some dating back to 2016-17, so each LA should prioritise expenditure of any funds received more than two years ago unless they wish to commit to a more substantial project.

- Ruth Morley will have the report for the minister ready in mid-March and the Councillors will have three weeks to respond.

## **5 FINANCE REPORTS**

### **Finance Reports**

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#### **5.1 Finance Report**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority receives and notes the finance report for 01/07/23-31/12/23.

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the finance report for 01/07/23-31/12/23.

#### **RESOLVED**

**Moved:** LA Member Nathan Mills

**Seconded:** LA Member Anthony Pickel

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Resolved TCLA-24/50*

- Request to check with finance about the line in the finance report titled 'Cemetery Survey'.



## 6 DIRECTOR OF TENNANT CREEK REPORT

### Director of Tennant Creek Report

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#### 6.1 Director of Tennant Creek Report

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority receives and notes the report from the Acting Director of Tennant Creek.

##### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the report from the Acting Director of Tennant Creek.

##### **RESOLVED**

**Moved: LA Member Nathan Mills**

**Seconded: LA Member Greg Marlow**

##### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Resolved TCLA-24/51*

## 7 REPORTS FROM BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

### Reports from Barkly Regional Council

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#### 7.1 Reports from Barkly Regional Council

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority receive and note the report from the Director of Operations and Remote Communities.

##### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the report from the Director of Operations and Remote Communities.

##### **RESOLVED**

**Moved: LA Member Heather Burton**

**Seconded: LA Member Anthony Pickel**

##### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Resolved TCLA-24/52*

## 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

### General Business

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#### 8.1 Installation of Murals

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority note the update on the Mural project.

##### MOTION

That the Local Authority accepts the update on the Mural project.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Dianne Stokes

**Seconded:** LA Member Nathan Mills

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/53*

- Anthony Pickel provided updates on the mural project. Power and Water have funding for this project and are working on this. TCLA have moved to close this item.

### General Business

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#### 8.2 CEO Report (Karguru Road)

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/35.

##### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/35.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Anthony Pickel

**Seconded:** LA Member Greg Marlow

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/54*

- Update from BRC - lights for Karguru Road have been funded and the installation process is ongoing. BRC to work on this in conjunction with an assessment of the black spots around Tennant Creek.
- Anthony Pickel notes that the current lighting around Tennant Creek meets the Australian Standards. New lights would have to be funded by the council.
- Item to be closed.

## General Business

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### 8.3 Footpath Project

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/35.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/35.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Len Holbrok**

**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/55*

- Footpath project to be placed in the Regional Plan for Barkly Regional Council.
- Ruth Morley asked if the Regional Plan has been approved or if TCLA has seen a draft.
- Peter Holt notes that the consultation with TCLA and other LA's is being improved upon and they will have a chance to discuss the structure of the Regional Plan regarding the community's involvement.
- Planned first draft to be completed around mid-March.
- Darrin Whatley to discuss with Peter Holt, about ideas for the Regional Plan.
- Len Holbrok is a strong advocate for footpath improvement along Paterson Street. The path around the butcher's shop is a particular problem area with overgrown trees.
- Peter Holt has suggested a black-spot project to look at what is dangerous and fix the issues. Ryan Francis to assess the footpaths around Tennant Creek.
- Sharen Lake made note that DIPL maintain the footpaths along Paterson Street.
- Darrin Whatley mentions that the upgrade along Paterson Street is under DIPL purview, and no update has been provided to the TCLA.
- Ian Bodill suggested that a request be sent to DIPL to present it at the next TCLA meeting.
- New motion: TCLA to send a request to DIPL for a presentation at the next meeting about the Streetscape upgrade along Paterson Street, with more details about the footpaths.

## General Business

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### 8.4 Footpath Project (existing paths)

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Heather Burton

**Seconded:** LA Member Len Holbrok

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/56*

- Diane Stokes made mention of the dark areas near the camps and asked that they be investigated for improvement.
- Darrin Whatley agreed but noted that the camps are not covered by the TCLA and BRC. They are Community Living Areas.
- Motion: look at ways to improve access between the Camps and Tennant Creek. BRC to provide updates.
- Heather Burton asked who is liable when someone is injured in a council area due to lack of footpath and lights.
- Ian Bodill said that the council will be focusing on these issues.
- Sharen Lake asked if Ryan Francis will be doing a black-spot project.
- Ryan Francis said that he will be looking into this.

## General Business

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### 8.5 Water Bubblers

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/39.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/39.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Heather Burton**

**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/57*

- Locations proposed are at the Oval, Fitness and Wellness Centre, Eldorado Park, Lake Mary Ann, outside the Pool, at the Cemetery.
- New types of bubblers are being investigated.
- Cost of \$5,000-\$7,000 per bubbler.
- Consider the locations of any bubblers that may be included in DIPL upgrade of Paterson Street.
- Question of locations to be included in community consultation at IGA. Facebook post has already been placed about the question.

## General Business

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### 8.6 Disability Hoist

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/40.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/40.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Darrin Whatley**

**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/58*

- The hoist has been ordered and manufacturing has commenced with the supplier.
- Follow up with BRC about storage location.

## General Business

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### 8.7 1 Tank Hill Walkway Project

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/30.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/30.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Dianne Stokes**

**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/59*

- Darrin Whatley to have a discussion with Sally from DIPL about the project.
- There has been no update about the status of this project.

## General Business

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### 8.8 Tennant Creek Swimming Pool

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/41.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/41.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Heather Burton

**Seconded:** LA Member Penelope Cowin

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/60*

- Barkly Regional Council are assessing the pool for upgrades. Brody Moore will provide an update to the TCLA.
- Barry Natrass to provide a WHS report on the pool.
- Heather Burton proposed an allocation of \$50,000 from TCLA funds towards pool upgrade.

## General Business

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### 8.9 Tennant Creek Dog Park

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note open Action Item TCLA-23/42.

#### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts open Action Item TCLA-23/42.

#### RESOLVED

**Moved:** LA Member Heather Burton

**Seconded:** LA Member Penelope Cowin

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/61*

- The question about possible locations of a dog park to be included in the community consultation at IGA.

## 9 OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

### Other Matters For Noting

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#### 9.1 Other Matters for Noting

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note the calendar of proposed meeting dates for Local Authority Meetings.

##### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the calendar of proposed meeting dates for Local Authority Meetings.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Heather Burton**  
**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/62*

### Other Matters for Noting

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#### 9.2 Donation to Barkly Vet

##### RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receive and note the proposal from Darrin Whatley.

##### MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the proposal from Darrin Whatley.

##### RESOLVED

**Moved: LA Member Dianne Stokes**  
**Seconded: LA Member Penelope Cowin**

##### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Resolved TCLA-24/63*

- TCLA accepted a letter from Barkly Vet regarding a request for funding of their desexing program.
- TCLA to donate \$25,000 for a desexing program in Tennant Creek region.

## 10 CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting Closed at 7:19pm.

The TCLA next meeting date is 05/03/2024.

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE Tennant Creek Local Authority meeting HELD on 20/02/24 AND ARE UNCONFIRMED.