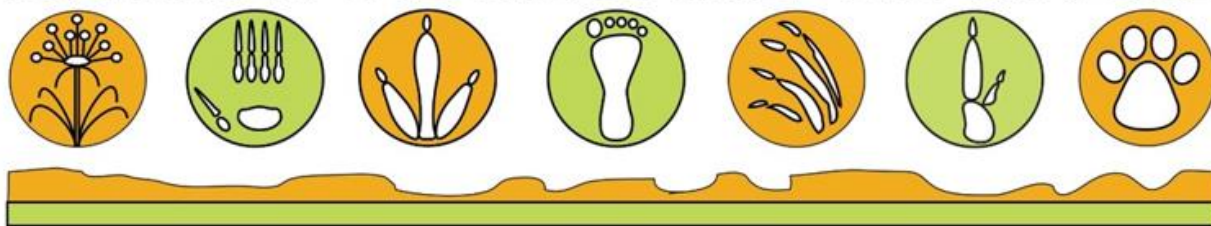


BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES Elliott LA Meeting

Barkly Regional Council's Elliott LA Meeting was held in the Conference Room on Thursday 1 August 2024 at 10:00 am.

Chris Kelly
Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION

We strive to be a responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens to 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 policies 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.

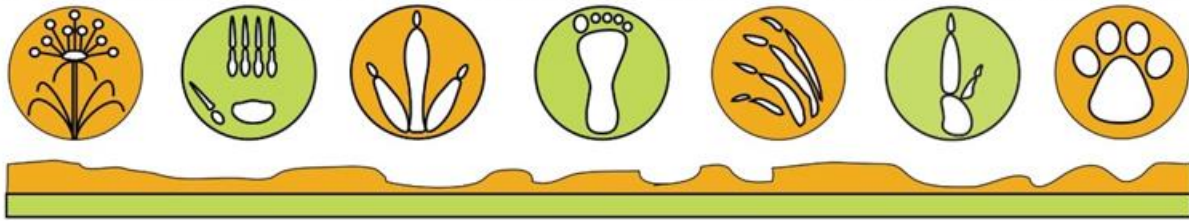
We want to ensure that our services are sustainable and that our region has a standard consistent level of services.

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.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Warumungu, Mudberra, Jingili, Wakaya, Wambaya, Waanyi, Walpiri, Warlmanpa, Alyawarr, Anmatyerre and Kaytetye Country on which Barkly Regional Council live and work, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to the ancestors and elders of these lands, past, present and emerging.

May we continue to work together to Deliver sustainable outcomes through a process Based on mutual respect and understanding.

COUNCIL PRAYER

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we trust you will guide and bless this meeting of the Barkly Regional Council. We pray that you will ensure that all discussions and decisions made today are just and fair as they will affect all people within. We also pray for your guidance to ensure that all our dealings are appropriate to all those whom we represent and will reflect an equitable and honest approach to the issues to be discussed today.

Amen

1 OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

1.1 Authority Members Present

- Bob Bagnall (Chair)
- Jody Nish
- Kevin Neade
- Kevin Gaskin
- Lennie Barton
- Jason Mullan

1.2 Staff and Visitors Present

- Chris Kelly (Chief Executive Officer, BRC)
- Brody Moore (Director of Operational Services, BRC)
- Murray Davies (Director of Corporate Services, BRC)
- Surya Godavarthi (Director of Infrastructure and Fleet, BRC)
- Romeo Mutsago (Chief Finance Officer, BRC)
- Kelly White (Area Manager, BRC)
- Sagar Chand (Regional Manager - Youth Sports & Rec, BRC)
- Lockie Thomas (Zone Manager - Night Patrol, BRC)
- Paul Hyde Kaduru (Local Authority Coordinator, BRC)
- Linda Rice (Library Coordinator, BRC)
- Steve Edginton (Member for Barkly)
- Ben Seekamp
- Micheal Harrington
- Phil Harris
- Mary James
- Fiona Mason
- Elaine Sandy
- Harold
- Marlene Ball
- Neville Khan
- Michelle Conolly
- John Jablonka

1.3 Apologies To Be Accepted

- Christopher Neade
- Laura Jackson

1.4 Absent Without Apologies

- Nil

1.5 Resignations

- Nil

1.6 Code of Conduct

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Code of conduct.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Lennie Barton

Seconded: LA Member Jody Nish

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.7 Disclosure of Interests

- Nil

1.8 Review of Disclosure of Interest

- Nil

2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of previous Minutes

2.1 Confirmation of previous Minutes

MOTION

That the Local Authority receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 04/04/2024.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jason Mullan

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/72

3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Actions from previous Minutes

3.1 Action Tracker

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and confirms the Action tracker with the mentioned changes.

SUMMARY

The following items were discussed during the review of the Action tracker:

- Regarding the Sobering up shelter, Fiona Mason from Anyinginyi informed the meeting that they have now prioritized the issue at hand and are actively working on it. Although there have been difficulties in locating the deed of lease, and despite efforts by a finance consultant, the desired outcome was not achieved. The intention is to continue focusing on this matter, ensuring the correct legal processes are followed before returning the property to the Elliott Community. An update is expected within the next two meetings.
- Jody mentioned that the wrong skip bins were ordered, leading to uncertainty on how to proceed. Kelly responded by stating that a specialist will assess the situation, and any issues will be addressed promptly, with updates to follow soon.
- Regarding the vehicle purchase, Bob informed that a previous CEO had assured the BRC would buy the vehicle, but nothing has happened. Chris responded that there is a vehicle in the yard that could be used, and they will investigate its condition and necessary repairs. Kelly mentioned that over next four weeks LA would receive more definitive answers regarding the vehicles.
- Chris mentioned that he would invite a representative from the Tourism Department to the next meeting.
- Surya mentioned that he would send the projects team to assess the condition of the bitumen roads, scope the necessary work, and provide updates at the next meeting.
- Regarding the playground equipment and discussions with the Barkly Regional Deal team about co-contribution, Chris mentioned that he will have a conversation with the Barkly Regional Deal and provide an update to the LA.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jody Nish

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/73

4 FINANCE REPORTS

Finance Reports

4.1 LAPF statement

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and confirms the LAPF statement.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jody Nish

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/74

5 AREA MANAGERS REPORTS

Nil

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

General Business

6.1 DIPL issues

MOTION

The Local Authority requests that the Council advocate with DIPL regarding the safety of the turn-off to the airstrip, as well as the signage and lighting facilities for the airstrip.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jody Nish

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/82

General Business

6.2 Water facility for Oval

MOTION

The Local Authority requests that the Council investigate the cost of installing an articulating water system around the oval.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Lennie Barton

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/83

General Business

6.3 Newcastle Waters

MOTION

That the Local Authority supports the initiative from Newcastle Waters.

SUMMARY

Please find the below attachment for the details.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jody Nish

Seconded: LA Member Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/84

Bob Bagnall

From: Wayne Kraft <krafty@matesofthemurrnranji.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 31 July 2024 10:27 AM
To: 'Bob Bagnall'
Cc: 'stuart ord'; ceo@discoverca.com.au
Subject: Newcastle Waters Historic Township/Marlinja Community

Attention: Bob Bagnall

G'Day Bob.

As per our recent telephone communications, we seek your advices and directions relating to the provisional of contact details with the Marlinja Community.

Beyond the earlier (and somewhat disastrous) communications between the TourismNT commissioned TRC Group (Tourism Recreation Conservation) and the Community Leaders at Marlinja, we are keen to 'reopen' discussions with them in an empathetic and understanding manner.

To that end, it is important that the Community Leaders are made aware that the 'Mates of the Murrnranji' Group are not, in any way, associated with TourismNT.

It is most important the following topics/agenda items are discussed in an open and transparent manner with the hope of moving forward for the benefit of history and the future of the Heritage-Listed Township.

- (1) We are soon to seek substantial funding (perhaps via the Community Benefit Fund in the first instance) for a 'state of the art' Interpretive Signage Strategy. We are hoping this will include the utilisation of both Telstra 5G and QR Technologies.
- (2) CENTENARY COMMEMORATION: Please note the following:

The historic information below provides the background to our proposed CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS in 2026.

The (yet to be decided) Muster Date will between 04 June 2026 and 19 August 2026, and is contingent upon the acceptance (or otherwise) from the Office of the Governor General for our newly appointed Governor General, along with our Administrator of the Northern Territory to attend the proposed CENTENARY COMMEMORATION at Newcastle Waters.

Newcastle Waters – the Capital of North Australia

On 04 June 1926, the Commonwealth of Australia assented to the **Northern Australia Act 1926** which effectively 'split' the Northern Territory into two (2) separate 'seats' of Government.

Central Australia with its 'Capital' being Alice Springs and (as per section 47 attached above) the "seat of Government of North Australia shall be established as soon as practicable at Newcastle Waters, and until the seat of Government is so established it shall be at Darwin".

The Act was ultimately 'rescinded' some 6-7 years later.

Governor General's Visit to Newcastle Waters (from Longreach Queensland)

On 19 August 1926, the Governor General of Australia and his wife, Lord and Lady Stonehaven flew from Longreach to Newcastle Waters in the first Australian - built (under licence) Qantas De-Havilland DH50 aircraft.

The day prior, Lady Stonehaven had 'christened' the plane *IRIS* (the Latin translation for **rainbow** amongst other meanings) at a ceremony at the newly-founded Qantas Airways 'complex' at Longreach.

They were met by local residents from Newcastle Waters Station along with the Darwin - based Police Superintendent and a Pastoral Lands Official who had both travelled (by 'road') down to Newcastle Waters following the Overland Telegraph Line maintenance track.

The maintenance track was the only 'road access' that followed the OT Line and existed long before the construction/establishment of the 'North-South Road' (later to be renamed the Stuart Highway in 1943).

Proposed Centenary Commemoration 2026

We have briefed the Office of the Administrator of the Northern Territory with the intention of ultimately inviting the Administrator to attend the proposed Commemoration.

Also, preliminary discussions have been initiated with the Office of the Minister for Heritage (Chansey Paech MLA), the Minister for Tourism, Joel Bowden MLA, and representatives from Tourism Northern Territory and Tourism Central Australia.

Our newly appointed Governor General of Australia, 'Her Excellency' Sam Moyston, has now been officially 'sworn-in', and we can now commence pre-planning discussions with the Office of the Governor General in Canberra for her possible attendance to the event.

The 'make-up' and timetable of the proposed event is purely speculative at this point in time.

SUMMARY

Bob, clearly now is the time to commence discussions with the local 'stakeholders' amongst others.

We have opened dialogue with the Consolidated Pastoral Company, owners of Newcastle Waters Station and the Junction Hotel with regard to the proposed Centenary Commemorations.

Please feel free to contact the writer (Krafty) regarding any of the contents of this email communication.

We are hopeful of your support and directions.

Many Thanks and Cheers,

Krafty

(Wayne Kraft AM)

General Business

6.4 Training for LA's

MOTION

The Local Authority agreed to proceed with the LA training in future as advised by Chris Kelly during the meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jason Mullan

Seconded: LA Member Kevin Neade

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/85

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

Reports from Barkly Regional Council

8.1 Report from the Director of Operational Services

MOTION

That the Local Authority note and accept the Operational Directorate Report.

SUMMARY

Human Resources

- **Council Community Coordinator:** Christopher Neade continues in the role with minor service interruptions due to board membership and staff sick leave. Supported by a proactive Customer Service team. Special thank you to Jody and Annette for supporting during this period.

Council Restructure

- **Operational Restructure:** Barkly Regional Council has completed an operational restructure to better serve communities, now including municipal services, libraries, and customer service.
- **Organisational Structure:** The new structure will be released shortly.
- **Regional Plan:** Completed and being printed, with printed copies available to the LA and the public.

Municipal Services

- **Parks and Open Spaces:** Maintenance of public parks, shared spaces, and the football oval continues. A fee-for-service arrangement with DIPL for highway traffic islands and verges maintenance is in place, with a formal contract to follow.
- **Roads:** Road audit completed using aerial drone technology. Images provided to Elliott LA. Road repair team to commence pothole repairs soon.
- **Waste:** Rubbish bin runs continue twice weekly.

- **Landfill:** Site requires extensive works; external funding is being investigated to resolve legacy waste issues.
- **Street Sweeper:** Awaiting repairs; was scheduled to visit Elliott starting 29th July.

Essential Services

- **Airstrip:** Slashing and whipper snipper work completed in June. New maintenance work order received, with work due to be completed by 2nd August.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Jody Nish

Seconded: LA Member Jason Mullan

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/75

Reports from Barkly Regional Council

8.2 Report from the Infrastructure and Fleet Directorate

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the report from the Infrastructure Directorate.

SUMMARY

1. Elliott Yarning Circle Project

- **Project Value:** \$10,000 AUD
- **Completion Date:** April 2024

Overview:

The Elliott Yarning Circle project, with a budget of \$10,000 AUD, was successfully completed in-house by the infrastructure and municipal teams. They efficiently managed all excavation and concrete work.

Next Steps:

The next phase involves preparing a detailed closing report to be submitted to the funding body. This report will summarise the project's accomplishments, ensuring compliance with funding requirements and providing a comprehensive overview of its implementation and outcomes.

2. Street Lighting for Kooringa Street

- **Project Value:** \$63,920
- **Scoping Completed:** April 2024
- **Initiation:** September 2024
- **Expected Completion:** November 2024

Overview:

This project aims to install new solar-powered street lights along the 200-meter stretch of Kooringa Street. The project is currently awaiting the supply of materials.

Next Steps:

The next phase involves obtaining quotations and selecting the right contractor for the installation.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Kevin Neade

Seconded: LA Member Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/76

Reports from Barkly Regional Council

8.3 Report from the Director of Community Development

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Services Directorate report.

SUMMARY

Community Safety Program

- **BRC Community Safety:** Continues to provide essential support to individuals and stakeholders in communities.

Safe House Program

- **Elliott Safe House:** Despite coordinator changes, it continues to offer regular programs such as morning teas and information sessions. Active participation in the FAFT program remains a priority.

Youth, Sport & Recreation Program

- **School Holidays:** Engaging activities were offered at Elliott, including skateboarding sessions by Build-up Skateboarding.

Staffing Update

- **Elliott YSR:** 2 staff members, fully staffed.

- **Elliott Safe House:** 2 staff members, with one coordinator position vacant.

Training

- **Elliott Safe House:** Three staff members completed First Aid Training in Tennant Creek on 01/07/2024.

Aged Care Program

- **Operations:** Elliott Aged Care is running smoothly with all client medical summaries and care plans updated.

- **Clearances:** Ongoing renewal of Working with Children clearances and Police checks for all staff.

- **No Complaints:** No complaints or incidents reported during the period.

Safe House Program

- Services: Provides emergency support and daily services for families facing domestic violence and crises.
- Activities: Offers workshops on health, wellbeing, and life skills.
- Partnerships: Works with local health services and the FASD School Program for comprehensive support.

Youth Sports and Recreation Program

- Activities: Engages youth through programs like football, basketball, soccer, and cultural activities. Collaborates with schools, health clinics, and NGOs.
- Impact: Increased participation has led to reduced delinquency and better school attendance. Supports the Elliott Hawks in the Suncable AFL competition.

Yarning Circle Project

- Goal: Created a community space for youth and cultural activities.
- Completion: Finished on time with the BRC Project and Municipal teams' support.
- Tasks: Included excavation, concrete work, installation of benches and a central table, and site cleanup. All goals were achieved without issues.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Lennie Barton

Seconded: LA Member Jody Nish

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/77

Reports from Barkly Regional Council

8.4 Report from the Director of Corporate Services

MOTION

That the Local Authority notes and receives the Corporate Services Directorate report.

SUMMARY

- Recent Activities:

- **Annual Reports:** Management and preparation of the 2022-23 Annual Report (Oct-Nov 2023) and 2024-25 Regional Plan (Feb-June 2024). Compilation of the 2023-24 Annual Report due by 15th November.
- **Property Management:** Review of remote properties and lease renewals in two communities.
- **Legal and Staffing:** Handling recent legal and staffing issues.
- **Policy Development:** Review and development of policies and procedures.
- **HR System:** Development of a new HR and payroll system (ongoing since December 2023).
- **Organisational Chart:** Review and delivery of the new chart (May-July 2024).

- **Restructure:** Absorption of additional positions and restructuring of records and archives processes (July 2024 and ongoing).
- **IT Improvements:** Upgrades to software, equipment, and processes.
- **New Tasks for Elliott Community:**
 - **Star Link:** Installation at the main office and Safe House.
 - **Alarm Upgrade:** Replacement of the 3G alarm at the Aged Care Facility.
- **Staffing:**
 - BRC is recruiting and aims to offer full-time or part-time positions to valued casual staff. Local Authority members are encouraged to inform community members about these opportunities.
- **Organisational Risk Assessment:**
 - Corporate Services assists with managing group risk, including compliance, contract management, governance, legal matters, HR management, information systems, records retention, and workplace safety. The team is dedicated to mitigating and reducing corporate and workplace risks.

RESOLVED

Moved: LA Member Lennie Barton

Seconded: LA Member Jody Nish

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolved ELLA-24/78

10 VISITOR PRESENTATIONS

Visitor Presentations

10.1 Presentation from the NT Electoral Commission

SUMMARY

The presentation was given by Neville Khan and Michelle Conolloy from NT Electoral Commission.

- **Election Responsibilities:** NTEC oversees Territory and local government elections but not federal elections or the 'Voice' Referendum.
- **Upcoming Elections:**
 - **Territory Election:** Scheduled for August 2024.
 - **Current Local Member:** Steve Edgington (CLP) represents Barkly.
- **Voting Information:** Specific details about voting times and locations will be provided closer to the election.
- **Community Awareness:** NTEC will conduct visits to raise awareness about the 2024 Territory Election, covering topics like enrolment, voting locations, remote voting procedures, and ensuring votes are counted.
- **Local Assistance:** NTEC is seeking local assistants to support election activities.
- **Enrolment:** Territorians may be automatically enrolled via government agencies but should verify their enrolment status.

- Key Dates:
 - **Voting Starts:** August 12, 2024.
 - **Election Day:** August 16, 2024.
- **Resources:** Information on enrolment, checking enrolment, applying for postal votes, and learning how to vote is available on the NTEC website.

Visitor Presentations

10.2 Presentation from Access to Justice in Barkly

SUMMARY

The presentation was given by John Jablonka from Access to Justice in Barkly.

- In 2020, the Jubunna Institute conducted a study titled "Access to Justice in the Barkly revisited" in collaboration with legal services (Legal Aid, NAAJA, CAWLS, CAAFLU) to assess legal needs and services in communities like Tennant Creek, Ali Curung, Elliott, and others.
- The report highlighted various justice issues faced by communities and proposed 16 recommendations to improve the justice system, including local access to legal assistance, better information dissemination, and interpreter services.
- Legal services have been implementing these recommendations since 2020, supported by funding for a project coordinator, currently John Jablonka until November 2024.
- The project aims to engage with communities and services to develop a plan ensuring accessible legal support for issues such as housing, Centrelink, and court proceedings (e.g., video link attendance).
- Key discussion points include community awareness of the report, identifying critical community issues related to law and justice, assessing existing community initiatives, and planning future collaborations, with opportunities to engage at events like the Desert Harmony Festival on August 2, 4, 5

Visitor Presentations

10.3 Presentation from the Northern Interests

SUMMARY

Michael Harrington from Northern Interests presented an issue regarding their planned project in Elliott. The presentation led to a discussion among attendees and Local Authority members, who expressed their views and questions. CEO Chris informed that he would hold a separate meeting with Northern Interests to discuss the issue further.

Visitor Presentations

10.4 Presentation from the Member of Barkly - Steve Edginton

SUMMARY

- Steve thanked the Elliott Local Authority and praised the strength and stability it has maintained over the years, along with the significant work accomplished through the LA.
- He emphasized the importance of quickly escalating DIPL issues, noting that they are a priority.
- Steve mentioned that if their government is elected, they would consider changes to local government, by engaging in discussions across the region and gathering feedback from the community with proper planning and do what is best for the community.
- He also noted that the housing project in North Camp has been completed.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

12 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Elliott LA next meeting date is 03/10/2024.

Meeting Closed at 02:45 PM

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEDING PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE ELLIOTT LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 01/08/2024 AND ARE UNCONFIRMED.