



Council Meeting - August 2005

Council Minutes (Daphne Daniels)
Date: Wednesday 24 August 2005
Venue: Ngukurr

Apologies

Robin Rogers
Dallas Kingsley
Sheila Joshua
Alan Watson
Kevin Rogers
Peter Lansen (Resigned)

Present

Bobby Ngungamtjbarr
Walter Rogers
Anita Thompson
Daphne Daniels
Kevin Rogers
David Daniels

Others

Andrei Koeppen CEO

Guests

Nathan and Sam from Community Corrections (Dept. Justice), Katherine.
Dale Campbell, Health Connect NT
Alexis from Family & Community Services

Meeting Opened by David Daniels at 11.00am

Correspondence

The correspondence folder was circulated among Councillors.

Disclosure of Interest

Councillors and Staff are required to disclose an interest (or possible interest) in a matter before the Council prior to the matter being discussed or debated in accordance with Section 20(1) of the Local Government Act.

No person declared any potential conflict of interest.

Previous Minutes

No objections received and all agreed the minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the previous meeting.

Resolution: 1-0805

That Council accept the minutes of the ordinary July meeting held on 2/8/05.

Moved: Bobby Ngungamtjarr Second: Anita Thompson. Carried

Community Corrections

Nathan and Sam talked to Council about Community Corrections and how this will assist the community and clients within the community. Issues such as case management, parole, employment, alcohol problems, counselling, youth issues and home detention were also discussed.

David Daniels questioned why there has been no Corrections Officer at Ngukurr for over one year.

CEO asked about the motor vehicle that had been allocated to Ngukurr. Nathan indicated the car was returned to the Katherine office.

Nathan also outlined the new Community Corrections Officer's position. This would now be based on a casual rate. CEO noted that Corrections had initially offered a fulltime position, then had reduced that to a part-time position, and were now changing the offer once more to a casual position, without a vehicle. Nathan confirmed this was correct.

Dawson Daniels was nominated as the new Community Corrections Officer. However the role will be Community Justice Officer, as the position is a shared role, partly funded by Corrections, and partly funded by Council as Supervisor of the Wardens Program.

CEO indicated he was not content with the arrangements proposed by Nathan as they would be too complex to administer. CEO was of the understanding that Community Corrections would contribute to a regular salary.

Resolution 2-0805: That Council approve the appointment of Dawson Daniels to the position of Community Corrections Officer.

Moved: Daphne Daniels Second: Kevin Rogers Carried

Health Connect

Dale Campbell from Health Connect NT talked about the new online computer system that would help Doctors, Hospitals and Clinics keep track of people's medical records and medical history using an national database that health workers could access. The registration process would commence on 30th August and would include a BBQ.

Wardens Program

Dale Campbell also discussed the Wardens Program and what is required to make it more better. He said Ngukurr was the first community in the NT to run a Wardens Program and that it had been very well operated in the past.

He said it was essential that Police and Wardens work closely together. He also said there needed to be a strategy that included traditional law and community. He suggested a starting point for rebuilding the wardens might be to answer the following questions; what is the problem? What do we do about it? How do we plan? Who will be involved?

Tasha Paddy and FACS

Alexis from FaCS asked Council to provide Tasha Paddy with a home that was appropriate to her special needs. Tasha has a degenerative disease called ??? and is restricted to wheelchair. She is currently studying her final year at high school and is regarded as an intelligent student. She cannot talk, but uses a speech machine. She requires a purpose built home with ramps and special facilities. Council indicated housing was a critical problem and that perhaps FaCS could provide the funding for the house, as no other offers of housing were forthcoming from NT or Federal Government.

Permit Delegates

Council were asked to support a request by the traditional owners to change the permit delegates for the Northern Land Council Land Permits. The proposed names submitted were as follows:

Simon Ponto
Dawson Daniels
Esther Ponto
John Graham Rogers

Council felt more discussion was needed to resolve permit delegations for various parts of the Yugul Mangi region, however they supported the request in principle.

Housing Damage

Council are concerned about the wilful and destructive damage caused by tenants and others to Council owned housing and other property including motor vehicles. Council discussed the issue and decided the person who caused the damage should be forced to pay the cost of fixing the damage caused.

Resolution 3-0805:

Any person who causes damage to property owned by Council will be required to pay for all necessary repairs and restoration.

Moved: Bobby Nungumajbarr Second: David Daniels Carried

Motor Vehicles

Council sought a resolution to enforce the no private use of Council vehicles policy. The matter was deferred to the next meeting.

Correspondence

Licensing Commission: a document from the commission provides the reasons behind the Commission's decision not to renew or issue any further Liquor Permits for Ngukurr as from August 31, 2005.

A letter from the Northern Land Council outlined a proposed exploration of an area nearby Yugul Mangi Council region by the DeBeers Diamond Mines.

A letter received from an elderly lady from Melbourne in response to The Age article on petrol sniffing at Ngukurr, suggesting Council use the sniffers to construct a golf course and that the sniffers might like to learn golf as an alternative to sniffing.

Simon Normand (Art Teacher at School) has submitted a proposal to Council to reprint the book he put together on the Artists of Ngukurr. He suggested Council contribute \$10,000 to the printing costs in return for 1,000 copies of the book, which would sell for \$20 each. Council supported the notion in principle. CEO needs to discuss the proposition with Director of Corporate Services.

An article from a agricultural machinery magazine on buffalo dairying indicated buffalo cheese was the best cheese for mozzarella, which is used in pizzas. It also suggested buffalo were very easy to dairy as they were placid and relatively tame.

Elected member training is available in Katherine in September and a letter was sent requesting the attendance of Yugul Mangi's elected members.

Finance

A detailed account of all cheques signed and electronic funds transfers (EFT) was circulated among members in the course of the meeting.

A summary of the current position was also distributed.

Other Business

Nalawan has an increasing need for more electricity and Council discussed some of the options, including the notion of extending power lines from Ngukurr to Nalawan. This would have to be referred to Power&Water Corporation. CEO suggested perhaps a grid could be formed by linking Ngukurr and Numbulwar's power station, thereby providing power to most outstations between the two communities. More research required.

Meeting Closed: 3:15pm

NB. Sitting fee of \$120 paid to all Council members in attendance except those on Council payroll or receiving stipend.

Signed

David Daniels