



LITCHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting
held in the Council Chambers, Litchfield
on Wednesday, 27 June 2018 at 6:30pm

Present	Maree Bredhauer Kirsty Hunt Mathew Salter Christine Simpson	Mayor Deputy Mayor / Councillor East Ward Councillor North Ward Councillor Central Ward
Staff	Kaylene Conrick Silke Maynard Wendy Smith Debbie Branson	Chief Executive Officer Director Community and Corporate Services Acting Director Infrastructure and Operations Executive Assistant
Public	Tony Tapsell Fran Moore Diana Rickard Greg Chapman Tou Saramat Ruchkaew Bruce Jensen Julie Jarvie Aisla Connolly Corey Jenkins Jessie Jenkins Thanh Pham Teresa Pham	Local Government Association NT Noonamah Tumbling Waters Tumbling Waters Acacia Hills Noonamah Noonamah Humpty Doo Noonamah Noonamah Flycreek Flycreek

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed members of the public.

The Mayor advised that an audio recording of the meeting will be made for minute taking purposes as authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

On behalf of Council, the Mayor acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the Council meet on. The Mayor also conveyed Council's respect to the Elders past, present and future for their continuing custodianship of the land and the children of the land across generations.

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Doug Barden –South Ward – Apology

Leave of Absence - Cr Kirsty Hunt, 16 – 27 July 2018 and 7 – 10 August 2018

Leave of Absence – Cr Mathew Salter, 18 July 2018

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Mayor advised that any member of Council who may have a conflict of interest, or a possible conflict of interest regarding any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting or a Committee meeting should declare the conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict in accordance with its obligations under the Local Government Act and its policies regarding the same.

Deputy Mayor Hunt declared a personal interest in item 15.13 Acquittal of Special Purpose Grant as her brother owns Country Solar NT.

No further disclosures of interest were declared.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt

Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT:

1. the full minutes of the Council Meeting held 16 May 2018, 12 pages, be confirmed; and
2. the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 30 May 2018, 4 pages, be confirmed.

CARRIED-1718/250

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Moved: Cr Simpson

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council receives and notes the Action Sheet.

CARRIED-1718/251

7. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

8. PETITIONS

Nil.

9. PUBLIC FORUM

Questions and comments from the Public Forum are paraphrased below.

9.1 Tou Saramat Ruchkaew – Acacia Hills

Mrs Ruchkaew introduced herself as a mango farmer from Acacia Hills and spoke in support of the *Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry in Litchfield Municipality* report being presented to Council tonight (Item 15.12).

Mrs Ruchkaew added that every year the farm loses so much product not only from transporting the mangos on the corrugated roads, but from the dust over the crops.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Ms Ruchkaew for her comments.

9.2 Jessie Jenkins - Noonamah

Mrs Jenkins spoke to Item 15.2 on tonight's agenda, also as a mango farmer and one who owns a commercial packing shed which services the local area to Katherine. Mrs Jenkins added that it was not only the local fruit that is getting damaged from the dust on the road but other farmers in the Top End are also affected. Mrs Jenkins spoke in support of sealing the roads mentioned in the report.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Mrs Jenkins for her comments.

9.3 Fran Moore - Noonamah

Mrs Moore spoke as a resident from Horsnell Road, one of the roads in the Mango Industry Strategic Roads Project, regarding a drainage problem she is having and asked that Council consider this drainage issue together with the sealing of the road.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Mrs Moore for her comments and advised Council will take her comments into consideration.

9.4 Greg Chapman – Tumbling Waters

Mr Chapman spoke regarding the importance of sealing Chibnall which would provide an improved route for traffic travelling from the southern area.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Mr Chapman for his comments.

9.5 Thanh Pham – Flycreek

Mr Pham spoke as a mango farmer from Chibnall Road and expressed his concern about the flooding of the road during the wet seasons. Mr Pham spoke supporting the comments expressed by the other mango farmers and in support of the report.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Mr Pham for his comments.

10. ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS

10.1 Late Report – 19.5 Affixation of the Common Seal to Funding Agreement

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt

Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT the late report item 19.5 Affixation of the Common Seal to Funding Agreement, be accepted and included under Officer's reports for consideration.

CARRIED-1718/252

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

12. MAYORS REPORT

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt

Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council receive and note the Mayor's monthly report.

CARRIED-1718/253

13. REPORT FROM COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

Councillors appointed by Council to external committees provided an update where relevant.

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt

Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT Council note the Councillors' verbal report.

CARRIED-1718/254

14. FINANCE REPORT

14.1 Council Finance Report – May 2018

Moved: Cr Simpson

Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT Council receives the Litchfield Council Finance report for the period ended 31 May 2018.

CARRIED-1718/255

15. OFFICERS REPORTS

15.1 Mobile Work Force Service Review

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt

Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council refers the Mobile Work Force service review to the 2019/20 Budget development process.

CARRIED-1718/256

A division was called

Deputy Mayor Hunt, Cr Simpson and Mayor Bredhauer voted for the motion

Cr Salter voted against the motion

15.2 Mobile Work Force Shed Construction Update

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council:

1. receive this report for information; and
2. approve the Special Purpose Grant Acquittal Form for 30 June 2018 to the Northern Territory Government for Grant HCD2017/01687.

CARRIED-1718/257

15.3 PA2018/0075, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to rezone from Zone R (Rural) to a Specific Use Zone that will facilitate strategic industrial development at Section 5544 (2658) Stuart Highway, Livingstone, Hundred of Strangways

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council receive for information Attachment B, Council's Letter of Comment for PA2018/0075, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to rezone from Zone R (Rural) to a Specific Use Zone that will facilitate strategic industrial development at Section 5544 (2658) Stuart Highway, Livingstone, Hundred of Strangways, the assessment of which is summarised above and reviewed in detail within the body of this report.

CARRIED-1718/258

15.4 PA2018/0100, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to rezone from Zone RL (Rural Living) to Zone CP (Community Purpose) at Section 2284 (175) Bees Creek Road, Bees Creek, Hundred of Strangways

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council endorse Attachment B, Council's Letter of Comment for PA2018/0100, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to rezone from Zone RL (Rural Living) to Zone CP (Community Purpose) at Section 2284 (175) Bees Creek Road, Bees Creek, Hundred of Strangways, the assessment of which is summarised above and reviewed in detail within the body of this report.

CARRIED-1718/259

15.5 PA2017/0341, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to Introduce Provisions in the NT Planning Scheme for the Use of a Helicopter Landing Site

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT Council endorse Attachment B, Council's Letter of Comment for PA2017/0341, a Planning Scheme Amendment Application to Introduce Provisions in the NT Planning Scheme for the Use of a Helicopter Landing Site, the assessment of which is summarised above and reviewed in detail within the body of this report.

CARRIED-1718/260

15.6 Land Acquisition and Road Opening associated with the Realignment of Freds Pass Road between Beaumont Road and Strangways Road

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT Council:

1. approve the purchase of 780m² from Lot 7 (150) Freds Pass Road at a cost of \$10,000, upon signed agreement from the landowner and upon the conclusion of the road opening process; and
2. proceed with a road opening over this portion of land and authorise all appropriate documents to be signed and common seal affixed by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer for the opening of the new road reserve.

CARRIED-1718/261

15.7 June Summary Report Planning and Mining

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council:

1. receive the June 2018 Summary Planning and Mining Report,
2. notes for information the responses provided to Development Assessment Services within Attachments A, B, C, and D to this report; and
3. notes for information the responses provided to the Department of Primary Industries and Resources within Attachment E to this report.

CARRIED-1718/262

15.8 RFT18-163 Freds Pass Upgrade – Award

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council award a contract for RFT18-163 Freds Pass Road Upgrade to Allan King and Sons in accordance with their submitted tender, at \$690,213 (GST inclusive) over the 12-week contract.

CARRIED-1718/263

15.9 Draft Municipal Plan & Budget 2018-19 Submissions

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make editorial changes, as necessary; and makes the following amendments to the Draft Municipal Plan and Budget 2018-19:

1. add a note of clarification to the figure of registered dogs on page 9 of the plan;
2. remove references to charge commercial waste companies depositing a Litchfield resident's waste at a Waste Transfer Station;
3. include in its Budget for 2018-19:
 - income and expenditure for a \$2,000 Road Safety Grant;
 - reserve transfer and expenditure for a \$15,000 Stronger Communities Program grant; and
 - \$30,000 to fund a Rating Review;
4. remove from its Draft Budget 2018-19:
 - \$30,000 for the development of an Irrigation and Landscaping plan for Thorak Regional Cemetery;
 - expenses for the free Microchipping service to the value of \$6,000;
 - \$10,000 for de-sexing vouchers for residents; and
 - \$20,000 for the review of the Council's website;
5. reduce funding in its Draft Budget 2018-19:
 - for the Women in Business Network by \$4,000; and
 - for catering for Chambers events by \$4,000;
6. include Elected Member Allowances at the level of 2017-18 allowances in the 2018-19 Budget;
7. reduce the Key Performance Indicators for Regulatory Services to
 - increase by registered Dogs greater than 10%; and
 - percentage of registered de-sexed dogs to greater than 45%.

CARRIED-1718/264

Mayor Bredhauer, Deputy Mayor Hunt and Cr Simpson voted for the motion
Cr Salter voted against the motion

15.10 Community Event on Council Land

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council:

1. agrees to provide the Humpty Doo Scouts with permission to hold a one-off community event on August 25, 2018 on 320 Arnhem Highway, Humpty Doo providing the Event Organiser satisfactory meets Council requirements to ensure the safety of the people at the event and the general community affected by the event, including:
 - a. An Event Plan incorporating a site plan;
 - b. A Traffic Management Plan, including a car parking diagram;
 - c. A risk Management Plan, including current public liability insurance certificate; and
 - d. Any other documentation requested by Council
2. delegates to the Chief Executive Officer or her delegate to sign-off on the documentation outline above, to provide the appropriate permission; and
3. acknowledges that this permission is once off and does not guarantee access to the site for future events.

CARRIED-1718/265

15.11 Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) January Monsoonal Trough and Cyclone Marcus

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hunt

THAT Council:

1. notes the expenditure and progress of the recovery works completed for Cyclone Marcus; and
2. endorses the commencement of works for roads affected by the Monsoonal Trough - January 2018, estimated to cost \$1,866,750.25, without the approval from NDRRA.

CARRIED-1718/266

15.12 Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry Project

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT Council:

1. receives and notes the Business Case *Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry in Litchfield Municipality*;
2. endorses seeking external funding to realise the *Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry Project* (the sealing of 15.2kms of the four key mango industry roads), estimated to cost approximately \$20.1m;
3. provides in-principle support to contribute up to \$5m to the project. This in-principle support would require a Council resolution and budget allocation, at a later date, to proceed with the project; and
4. endorses the *Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry Project*, as one of Council's Top 3 Advocacy Projects.

CARRIED-1718/267

Deputy Mayor Hunt declared a personal interest in item 15.13 Acquittal of Special Purpose Grant as her brother owns Country Solar NT. Deputy Mayor Hunt left the meeting at 7:49pm while Council considered this item.

15.13 Acquittal of Special Purpose Grants

Moved: Cr Simpson
Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT Council approve the partial acquittal forms of the Special Purpose Grants for the installation of Litchfield Council Solar System to the value of \$28,720 as at 20 June 2018 and the upgrade to the Irrigation System at Howard Park Reserve to the value of \$13,585 as at 30 June 2018.

CARRIED-1718/268

Deputy Mayor Hunt returned to the meeting at 7:50pm.

16. COMMON SEAL

Nil.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

17.1 Howard Park Expenses

The question raised by Cr Salter was taken on notice.

18. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

18.1 Bruce Jensen – Horsnell Road

Mr Jensen questioned Item 15.12 Improving the Productivity of the Mango Industry Project and wanted to know what the process Council is proposing to move forward with the project.

Council's Reply:

The CEO advised that Council proposed to start lobbying the appropriate Federal and Territory Ministers and Departments for funding. The CEO added that meetings will take place with herself, the Mayor and Territory Government Ministers and Department representatives.

The CEO advised that there are a number of upcoming federal funding opportunities available such as Building Better Regions and Strategic Roads Funding.

The CEO recommended that the mango industry representatives also start advocating for the project and the funding required with their local members.

18.2 Diana Rickard – Tumbling Waters

Ms Rickard expressed her concern in relation to the spraying at night.

Council's Reply:

The Mayor thanked Ms Rickard for her comment.

19. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Moved: Cr Simpson

Seconded: Cr Salter

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following Confidential Items:

19.1 Application to write off legal charges

Regulation 8(b) – information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

19.2 Application to write off rates and penalty interest

Regulation 8(b) – information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

19.3 Community Grants Scheme 2017-18

Regulation 8(e) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential.

19.4 RFT18-193 Freds Pass Upgrade - Award

Regulation 8(c) – information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

19.5 Affixation of the Common Seal to Funding Agreement

Regulation 8(e) – information provided to the Council on condition that it be kept confidential.

CARRIED-1718/269

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:56pm.

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hunt
Seconded: Cr Simpson

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations the meeting be re-opened to the public.

CARRIED-1718/275

The meeting moved to Open Session at 8:13pm.

20. CLOSE OF MEETING

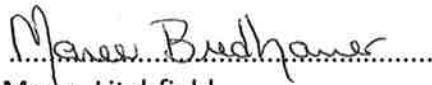
The Chair closed the meeting at 8:13pm.

21. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 18 July 2018.

MINUTES TO BE CONFIRMED

Wednesday, 18 July 2018



Mayor Litchfield
Maree Bredhauer



Chief Executive Officer
Kaylene Conrick