

# WEST ARNHEM



REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting  
Tuesday, 20 February 2024 at 9:00 am  
Council Chambers

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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Mayor Ryan declared the meeting open at 12:01, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

### ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Matthew Ryan (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Ralph F Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips (via video conference)
Councillor	James Woods (via video conference)
Councillor	Julius Don Kernan (via video conference)
Councillor	Henry Guwiyul (via video conference)
Councillor	Donna Nadjamerrek (via video conference)
Councillor	Gabby Gumurdul (via video conference)

### STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer (acting)	Jessie Schaecken
Director of Finance conference)	Jocelyn Nathanael Walters (via video
Director of Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth (via video conference)
General Manager Technical Services (acting)	Clem Beard
Governance and Risk Advisor (acting)	Jasmine Mortimore
Information Advisor	Ben Heaslip (via video conference)
Manager Community Services Support	Marnie Mitchell
Waste and Resource Coordinator	Sara Fitzgerald
Business Development Manager	Leanne Johansson
Finance Manager	Corey White (via video conference)
Projects Coordinator Infrastructure	Sam Fazzolari

### 3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies and Leave of Absence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Apologies and Leave of Absence.

**OCM9/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Woods**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted Elected Member apologies for

1. James Marrawal and Otto Dann for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 - 21 February 2024
2. Mickitja Onus for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 February 2024
3. Gabby Gumurdul for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21 February 2024

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Absent without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Absent without Notice.

**OCM10/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Guwiyul**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL noted NIL Elected Member absences without notice for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 - 21 February 2024.

**CARRIED**

### 4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**OCM11/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Mayor Ryan**

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 - 21 February 2024.

**CARRIED**

### 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff</b>

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>
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The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.

**OCM12/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Cr Guwiyul**

THAT COUNCIL received the NIL declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 February 2024.

**CARRIED**

## **6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

**OCM13/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Confirmed the minutes of 20 December 2023 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting; and
2. Confirmed the minutes of 31 January 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentations and Visitors</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Presentations and Visitors.

**OCM14/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Mayor Ryan  
Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL noted the presentations on

1. Update on Future of Jabiru by Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town.

**CARRIED**

## **8 ACTION REPORTS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Action Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jessie Schaecken, Acting Chief Executive Officer</b>

Meeting broke for lunch at 13:48 and recommenced at 14:15  
The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

**OCM15/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviewed the outstanding action items and gave approval for completed items to be removed from the register.
3. Contact relevant agencies to raise concerns regarding staff inconsistencies and roll on effects relating to sport and rec service delivery in community and possibilities for funding channels.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Special Finance Committee and Meetings</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor</b>

Mayor Ryan closed the meeting at 14:55 on Tuesday 20 February 2024 and recommenced at 9:08 on Wednesday 21 February 2024

The Council considered a report on Special Finance Committee and Meetings.

**OCM16/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Ryan  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Special Finance Committee and Meetings*; and
2. Nominated Cr Onus and Cr Woods as a member of the Special Finance Committee; and
3. Accepted resignation for Cr Phillips for the Special Finance Committee
4. Approved that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be replaced by a Special Finance Committee meeting when a quorum cannot be achieved.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

Cr Guwiyul joined the meeting at 9:22

The Council considered a report on Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding.

**OCM17/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding*; and
2. Approved the expenditure of the following amounts from the WaRM Grant Funding of \$140,000:
  - \$85,000 contribution towards purchase of a new Wheel Loader for Maningrida
  - \$40,000 for Community Engagement Activities
  - \$10,000 for Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Community Grant Program

- \$ 5,000 to run a West Arnhem Waste Forum

CARRIED

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Maningrida Change Rooms</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sam Fazzolari, Proejct Coordinator Infrastructure</b>

Cr Kernan joined meeting at 9:53

The Council considered a report on Maningrida Change Rooms.

**OCM18/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Ryan**

**Secoded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Maningrida Change Rooms*

CARRIED

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Community Buses Commitment</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Community Buses Commitment.

**OCM19/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Secoded Cr Nadjamerrek**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Community Buses Commitment*; and
2. Does not endorse current letter from Mayor accepting offer of funding to purchase community buses; and
3. Directed Council to reach out to the Office of Marion Scrymgour to offer funding to better suited West Arnhem Organisation to accept funding for purchase of community buses.
4. Requested alternative letter outlining organisations in communities better suited to deliver service within the communities, cc'ing in those organisations

CARRIED

**9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

Meeting broke for morning tea at 10:22 and recommenced at 10:57

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

**OCM20/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth**

**Secoded Cr Woods**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Received and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

2. Tabled draft letter from Mayor to Federal Ministers for PowerWater and Telsta issues in West Arnhem

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor.

**OCM21/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Cr Woods**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted the report entitled *Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor*.  
**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the CEO</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

**OCM22/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Meetings and Events attended by the CEO*.
2. Approved 2 days Annual leave from Monday 26 February 2024 – 27 Tuesday February 2024 inclusive.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2023</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Corey White, Accountant</b>

The Council considered a report on Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2023.

**OCM23/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Mayor Ryan**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted the report entitled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2023*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Appreciation of WARC Staff - NYE Celebrations Maningrida</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Appreciation of WARC Staff - NYE Celebrations Maningrida.

**OCM24/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Cr Woods**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Received and noted the report entitled Appreciation of WARC Staff - NYE Celebrations Maningrida
2. Requested the administration to formally write a letter of appreciation from the Council thanking each staff member for their dedication to delivering the most successful event held in Maningrida for NYE celebrations.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Maningrida NYE Event support from Chief Ministers and Cabinet</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Fiona Ainsworth, Acting Chief Operations Officer</b>

The Council considered a report on Maningrida NYE Event support from Chief Ministers and Cabinet.

**OCM25/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Onus  
Seconded Cr Kernan**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Received and noted the report entitled Maningrida NYE Event support from Chief Ministers and Cabinet.
2. Letter to Ken Davies and Marey De Lacey to show appreciation for 2023 event and constructive feedback for 2024 NYE Events for all West Arnhem Communities.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Operations Report - December 2023 and January 2024</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Fiona Ainsworth, Acting Chief Operations Officer</b>

The Council considered a report on Operations Report - December 2023 and January 2024.

**OCM26/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted the report entitled *Operations Report - December 2023 and January 2024*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.8</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Business Development Report October to December 2023</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Leanne Johansson, Business Development Manager</b>

The Council considered a report on Business Development Report October to December 2023.

**OCM27/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Woods  
Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted the report entitled *Business Development Report October to December 2023*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Building Plans and Concept Design for New Warruwi Office</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Building Plans and Concept Design for New Warruwi Office.

**OCM28/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Mayor Ryan  
Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT THE COUNCIL:

1. Received and note the report entitled Building Plans and Concept Design for New Warruwi Office
2. A variation to current budget for the allocation of Council funds to supply a concept design and cost allocation for project at an estimated cost of \$13,805.00

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.10</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Report on Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Report on Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum.

**OCM29/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Mayor Ryan**

THAT COUNCIL received and noted the report entitled *Report on Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum*.

**CARRIED**

**10 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Elected Member Questions with or without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>{author-name}, {position}</b>

The Council considered a report on Elected Member Questions with or without Notice.

**OCM30/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Cr Phillips**

That the Chairperson invites questions with or without notice from Elected Members.

1. Mayor Ryan raised issue with street lights in Maningrida being too dim



2. Cr Phillips raised maintenance of dirt tracks around Maningrida towards sewerage pond and around oval near TEABBA
3. Mayor Ryan raised contractors dumping rubbish in Maningrida
4. Cr Kernan raised putting rocks at bottom of cliff to stop corrosion
5. Deputy Mayor raised survey footpaths in Jabiru to ensure they are regularly maintained
6. Cr Onus raised community garden for Jabiru
7. Cr Kernan raised having Councils rubbish truck timetable for community members to access

**CARRIED**

## **11 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.

**OCM31/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

## **12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

The information in this section of the Agenda is classed as confidential under Section 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 51 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2021*.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

**OCM32/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Ryan**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 20 December 2023 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services</b>

Mayor Ryan, Cr Kernan declared they are members of the NLC executives Council and Cr Phillips is a member of the full Council.

The Council considered a report on Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council.

**OCM33/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Received and noted the report entitled Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council; and
2. Status of outstanding Land Use Agreements noted.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public.

**OCM35/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Cr Guwiyul**

THAT COUNCIL opened the meeting to the public after the discussion of confidential items, and approved to disclose the selected resolutions from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes.

**CARRIED**

Mayor Ryan, Deputy Mayor Williams and the Councillors thanked Jessie Schaecken for her commitment to West Arnhem Regional Council in her role as acting Chief Executive Officer and acknowledged the many achievements throughout her tenure.

**14 NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 20 March 2024

Chairperson Mayor Ryan declared the meeting closed at 14:19.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 February 2024.

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Chairperson

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Date Confirmed