

Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting  
Monday, 30 September 2024 at 1:00 pm  
Council Chambers

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**Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 1.10 pm, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.**

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

**Chairperson Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 1:11pm, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Ralph F. Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Monica Wilton
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	James Marrawal

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Director Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
General Manager Technical Services (Acting)	Clem Beard
Operations Support Administration Assistant	Pania Withnall

**GUESTS**

Consultant	Cathryn Hutton
Office of The Hon. Marion Scrymgour MP	Patrick Heenan
Office of The Hon. Marion Scrymgour MP	Ebony Williams-Costa

### 3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice.

**OCM251/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the absence of Cr Dann, Cr Phillips, Cr Gumurdul, Cr Nadjamerrek, Cr Guwiyul.
2. Notes the apologies received from Cr Dann, Cr Phillips, Cr Gumurdul, Cr Nadjamerrek, Cr Guwiyul.
3. Determines Cr Dann and Cr Nadjamerrek are absent with permission of the Council.
4. Determines Cr Phillips, Cr Gumurdul, and Cr Guwiyul are absent without permission of the Council.

**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, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**OCM252/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 30 September 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, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.

**OCM253/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 30 September 2024; and
2. Request for Mayor Woods to be amended to Acting Unit Officer of Maningrida Emergency Response Group (MERG).

**CARRIED**

Minute Note: Chairperson Mayor Woods closed the Ordinary Council Meeting at 1:14pm on 30 September to open the Special Council Meeting.

Minute Note: Ordinary Council Meeting re-commenced at 2:26 pm from the Special Council meeting and moved to item 9.6.

Minute Note: Ordinary Council Meeting recommenced at 10:47am on Tuesday 1 October 2024.

## 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, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM265/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 21 August 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM266/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Confirm the minutes of 21 August 2024 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting; and
2. Confirm the minutes of 6 September 2024 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes.

**OCM267/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Marrawal**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL confirmed the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings and reviewed decisions made by the Local Authority:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Date Held</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
<b>Minjilang</b>	<b>9 September 2024</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>25 November 2024</b>
<b>Warruwi</b>	<b>10 September 2024</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>26 November 2024</b>
<b>Gunbalanya</b>	<b>11 September 2024</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>27 November 2024</b>

Maningrida	12 September 2024	Yes	28 November 2024
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1. Approve the membership for Nicodemus Nayilibidj to join the Gunbalanya Local Authority.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes.

**OCM268/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Confirmed the minutes of 13 September 2024 Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee as a true and correct record of the meeting and reviewed decisions made by the Committee; and
2. Cr Blyth acknowledged the work of the staff and Councillors for the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentations and Visitors - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council deferred a report on Presentations and Visitors - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure due to technical issues.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentations and Visitors - Local Government Association of the Northern Territory</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Deputy Mayor Williams left the meeting at 11:17am and returned to the meeting at 11:19am.

The Council considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.

**OCM263/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL noted the presentation on Membership Services by Local Government Association of the NT.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentations and Visitors - Northern Territory Governments Remote Power System Strategy</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Meeting took a break at 11:26am and recommenced at 11:41am.

The Council considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - Northern Territory Governments Remote Power System Strategy.

**OCM264/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Onus**  
**Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL notes the presentations on Remote Power System Strategy by Ekistica.

**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>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Meeting broke at 12:25pm and recommenced at 12:37pm.

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

**OCM269/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Action Items*;
2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register;
3. Invite DLI CEO through formal correspondence to discuss Action Item 7, in the action register in detail;
4. Cr Onus and the Elected Members acknowledge and commend Marine Mitchell and staff for all the work and effort put into running the Kurrung Sports Carnival 2024; and
5. Cr Ralph advised that he will raise Action Item 16 with Parks Australia and report back to Council.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Jabiru By-Laws 2025 for Consultation</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Jabiru By-Laws 2025 for Consultation.

**OCM270/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Jabiru By-Laws 2025 for Consultation*.
2. Approve the draft by-laws to go out to public consultation; and
3. Provide feedback to the CEO or Governance Advisor by 21 October 2024.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Funeral and Cemetery Policy Review</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

Meeting broke for Lunch at 1:31pm and recommenced at 2:16pm.

The Council considered a report on Funeral and Cemetery Policy Review.

**OCM271/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Marrawal  
Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Funeral and Cemetery Policy Review*;
2. Request that the Cemetery Declarations are attached to the back of the policy; and
3. Approve the Funeral and Cemetery Policy for publication.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposed Dog Park - Jabiru</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Acting General Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Proposed Dog Park - Jabiru.

**OCM272/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth  
Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Proposed Dog Park - Jabiru*; and
2. Approve the proposal to construct a Dog Park at the lake with a budget of \$30,000.00.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Draft Schedule and Conduct of Meetings (Elected) Policy</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Draft Schedule and Conduct of Meetings (Elected) Policy.

**OCM273/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Onus  
Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Draft Schedule and Conduct of Meetings (Elected) Policy*;
2. Request formal correspondence to be sent to Cr Phillips, Cr Gumurdul and Cr Guwiyul regarding their absence without permission from the Council for the Ordinary Council Meeting held 30 September 2024;
3. Approve CEO to sign draft 'Schedule and Conduct of Meetings (Elected)' Policy (with amendment); and
4. Request Policy to be circulated to the Elected Members.

**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, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

**OCM274/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Namanurki  
Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL receive and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

**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, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM275/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Cr Marrawal**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *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>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

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

**OCM276/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Mayor Woods  
Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the CEO*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Technical Services Projects Report</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Acting General Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Projects Report.

**OCM277/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Projects Report*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Jabiru Landfill EPA License Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

The Council considered a report on Jabiru Landfill EPA License Update.

**OCM278/2024 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Cr Blyth**

## Seconded Cr Marrawal

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Jabiru Landfill EPA License Update*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Finance Report for the period ended 31 August 2024</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance</b>

The Council considered a report on Finance Report for the period ended 31 August 2024.

**OCM258/2024 RESOLVED:**

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

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 August 2024*.

**CARRIED**

Minute Note: Chairperson Mayor Woods closed the Ordinary Council Meeting at 2:30pm on 30 September 2024 to re-open the Special Council Meeting.

## 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>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM279/2024 RESOLVED:**

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

Council had no questions with or without notice.

**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, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM280/2024 RESOLVED:**

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

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, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM281/2024 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 21 August 2024 Confidential 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>Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

*The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.3</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, Acting General Manager Technical Services</b>

*The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(i). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

*The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposed Yield Up - Lot 660 Maningrida</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Acting General Manager Technical Services</b>

Cr Wilton declared a conflict due to being the Deputy Chair for the Maningrida Homeland Company. The Council deferred a report on Proposed Yield Up - Lot 660 Maningrida due to loss of quorum.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Tender Evaluation - Minjilang Cemetery Construction</b>

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>
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The Council considered a report on Tender Evaluation - Minjilang Cemetery Construction.

**OCM285/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Tender Evaluation - Minjilang Cemetery Construction*; and
2. Approve the awarding of tender for Minjilang Cemetery Construction to Stedmans Construction and Engineering Pty Ltd for \$149,419.50 GST Inclusive.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Breakdown of costs for Gunbalanya Oval Variation</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Acting General Manager Technical Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Breakdown of costs for Gunbalanya Oval Variation.

**OCM286/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Breakdown of costs for Gunbalanya Oval Variation*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.8</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM287/2024 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Blyth**

THAT COUNCIL open the meeting to the public after the discussion of confidential items, and approve to disclose the resolutions 12.1, 12.6, and 12.7 from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes.

**CARRIED**

**13 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 22 October 2024.

**14 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 4:46pm on Tuesday 1 October 2024.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 30 September 2024.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 September 2024.