

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

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	Jocelyn Nathanael Walters (via video conference)
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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff

Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor
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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

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

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

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Presentations and Visitors
Author:	Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor

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 Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Maningrida Change Rooms
Author:	Sam Fazzolari, Proejct Coordinator Infrastructure

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

Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

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

CARRIED

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

The Council considered a report on Community Buses Commitment.

OCM19/2024 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus

Seconded 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

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

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

Seconded 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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*.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Chairperson

Date Confirmed