

Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Warruwi Local Authority  
PROVISIONAL MEETING  
Wednesday, 4 March 2026 at 10:00 am  
Council Chambers

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 10:01am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Renfred Manmurulu
Member	Jamie Milpurrr
Member	Misman Kris
Member	Richard Nawirr

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Council Services Manager	Debbie Gough
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Violette Stehlin
Finance Officer	Prabesh Basnet
Finance Manager	Imran Shajib (via Teams)

GUESTS

Northern Territory Police	Sergeant Tim Gillahan
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### 3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice.

WAR-P1/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Member Ida Waiang, Member Nicholas Hunter and Member Jason Mayinaj; and
2. Determines Member Ida Waiang, Member Nicholas Hunter and Member Jason Mayinaj are absent with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

### 4 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Election of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Election of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson.

WAR-P2/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr

Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Election of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson*; and
2. Elects Local Authority Member Renfred Manmurulu to the position of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson until the next meeting.

CARRIED

Member Renfred Manmurulu assumed the chair.

5 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

WAR-P3/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu  
Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Warruwi Local Authority meeting held on 14 October 2025.

CARRIED

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

WAR-P4/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Misman Kris  
Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges there was no declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Warruwi Local Authority meeting held on 4 March 2026.

CARRIED

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

As it was a Provisional Meeting this item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority Meeting.

## 8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Items 8.1 was deferred until the representatives were available.

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was deferred to the next Local Authority meeting as the representatives did not attend.

## 9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to 31 January 2026.

WAR8-P5/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to August 2025*;
2. Receives and notes the Warruwi Local Authority Certification of the 2024-25 Local Authority Project Funding; and
3. Requests a staff member be invited to discuss Support at Home Program in detail at the next Warruwi Local Authority meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

WAR-P6/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Misman Kris

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and note the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Debbie Gough, Council Services Manager, Warruwi

The Local Authority considered a report on CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services.

WAR-P7/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi.

WAR-P8/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi*; and
2. Requests that the Northern Land Council and Territory Housing is provided a copy of the survey documents.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.

WAR-P9/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Mismam Kris

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	Warruwi Culture Camp
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Warruwi Culture Camp.

WAR-P10/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu  
Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Warruwi Culture Camp*; and
2. Approves the allocation of \$10,000 from the Local Authority Funding for the 2026 Warruwi Cultural Camp.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.7
Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on 2024-2025 Annual Report.

WAR-P11/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu  
Seconded Member Mismar Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *2024-2025 Annual Report*; and
2. Requests copies of images taken at the 2023 Leadership Summit be circulated.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23am and reconvened 11:51am.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 8.1 – Invited Guest – NT Police was bought forward.

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - NT Police.

Sergeant Tim Gillahan joined the meeting at 11:51am and left the meeting at 12:05pm.

WAR-P12/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Jamie Milpurr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY noted the update on Law and Order by the NT Police.

CARRIED

### 10 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Review of Action Items.

WAR-P13/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviews the outstanding action items and gives approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.2
Title:	Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi.

WAR-P13/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi*; and
2. Approves the proposed boundaries for West Arnhem Regional Council listed town lots.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.3
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Cultural Training.

WAR-P14/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Cultural Awareness Training*; and
2. Provides recommendations on cultural training that best meet the needs of the community, staff, contractors and visitors as follows:
  - Appropriate attire in Community
  - Face-to-face training to be provided
  - Provide two weeks' notice
  - Council Services Manager to provide maps
  - Maps to show boundaries
  - Council Office to be closed all day until advised otherwise by a Traditional Owner
  - Yarn circle on Country
  - First Nations person from Warruwi to lead training
  - Training to be provided to men and women separately
  - Seek permission from Traditional Owners to gain access.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.4
Title:	Warruwi Community Flag Poles
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Warruwi Community Flag Poles.

WAR-P15/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Warruwi Community Flag Poles*; and
2. Approves the costs of the installing two additional Community Flag Poles in Warruwi from Local Authority Funding at an estimated cost of \$6,490.00.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.5
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

WAR-P16/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Benefit Fund*; and
2. Prioritises a list of projects from the Local Authority members for the Administration to pursue future grant applications. List of proposed projects as follows:
  - Shade front of office (seaside)

CARRIED

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice.

WAR-P17/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Misan Kris

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY recorded for action the following questions from Members.

Requesting use of a grader to grade road that leads out to the bores.

CARRIED

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 12 May 2026.

13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu declared the meeting closed at 1:30pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Warruwi Local Authority held on Wednesday 4 March 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Warruwi Local Authority held on Wednesday 4 March 2026.