

Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Gunbalanya Local Authority
Tuesday, 12 May 2026 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting open at 10:00am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Andy Garnarradj
Member	Evonne Gumurdul
Member	Kenneth Mangiru
Member	Maxwell Garnarradj
Member	Ishmael Wurramara
Member	Kerry Manakgu

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Henry Yates
Councillor	Ralph McCoy (via Teams)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (via Teams)
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell (via Teams)
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Finance Manager	Imram Shajib (via teams)
Acting Council Service Manager	Damian Blair
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin (via Teams)
Waste and Resource Coordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton

GUESTS

Northern Land Council Chairperson	Matt Ryan
Power Water	Megan Purser
One Wifi	Ritesh Pawa and Gary Tsgan
NT Police	Constable Adam McMahon
Emmanuel Church	Matt Pearson

GUEST SPEAKERS

Constable Adam McMahon joined the meeting at 10:00am and left at 10:26am.

A flyer from the NT Police was tabled regarding the Gunbalanya Community Safety Plan. The plan incorporates issues such as domestic violence, unlawful entry, over consumed alcohol, youth issues, unregistered and unroadworthy vehicles and licencing.

Questions were raised regarding Council's Night Patrol service, and it was agreed that the Local Authority Members support the Night Patrol employees.

NT Police available to provide assistance with registration online registration renewals. The local police office to provide information to community regarding stamp duty and new requirements regarding vehicle inspections.

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

GUN20/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Kerry Manakgu
Seconded Member Ishmael Wurraramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Cr Daniel Siebert and Member Connie Nayinggul and Member Tamar Nawirridj;
2. Notes Mayor James Woods is on Leave of Absence; and
3. Determines Cr Daniel Siebert and Member Connie Nayinggul and Member Tamar Nawirridj, are an apology with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

GUN21/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges that there were no declarations of interest in reference to the items listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 12 May 2026.

CARRIED

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

GUN22/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Maxwell Garnarradj
Seconded Member Ishmael Wurrarama

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopts the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Tuesday, 2 March 2026 as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Invited Guest - Northern Land Council Chairperson
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - Northern Land Council Chairperson.

As a member of the Northern Land Council, Deputy Mayor Phillips declared a conflict of interest and Member Kerry Manakgu in this item however it was considered necessary for her to leave the meeting as no decision was required from Council.

Chairperson Matt Ryan and Andry Ralph from the Northern Land Council joined the meeting at 10:41am.

It was agreed that Council write to the Minister for Logistics and Infrastructure and Member for Arafura to follow up the outstanding Section 19 lease application.

Northern Land Council full council meeting will be held in Gunbalanya from Monday, 22 June 2026 for a week. The meeting will be held at the Gunbalanya School and camping on the oval.

GUN23/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the attendance of the Northern Land Council's Chairperson to discuss the Gunbalanya Airport shelter.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Invited Guest - Power Water
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred until the representative was scheduled to join the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58am and reconvened at 11:24am

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred until the representative was scheduled to join the meeting.

7 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

This item was deferred to later in the meeting.

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report.

GUN24/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report*;
2. Requests the palm trees be removed where the flag poles will be installed;
3. Requests a report to the next Local Authority meeting regarding a funeral vehicle, co funded by various stakeholders.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Papers of Sue Kesteven
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Papers of Sue Kesteven.

GUN25/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Ishmael Wurramara
Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Papers of Sue Kesteven*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026.

It was agreed that the titles of ASTIC and Non-ASTIC be changed.

GUN26/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026*.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58am and reconvened at 12:41pm without Cr Ralph McCoy and Member Ishmael Wurramara in attendance.

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

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

Member Ishmael Wurramara joined the meeting at 12:50pm.

Cr Henry Yates left the meeting at 12:58pm and Cr Ralph McCoy joined the meeting at 12:59pm.

GUN27/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul

Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*; and
2. Contacts Northern Territory Housing regarding weed control and fire hazard issues within yards of the Community houses.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Invited Guest - Power Water
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - Power Water.

Member Evonne Gumurdul joined the meeting at 1:20pm.

Megan Purser attending the meeting at 1:20pm and left at 1:34pm.

GUN28/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kenneth Mangiru

Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the attendance of the representative from Power Water.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya.

One Wifi joined the meeting at 1:36pm and left at 1:53pm.

GUN25/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul

Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation provided by the One Wifi.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.5
Title:	Finance Report to 31 March 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

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

Member Evonne Gumurdul left the meeting at 1:15pm

GUN30/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Ishmael Wurramara

Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to 31 March 2026*;
2. Receives and notes the Gunbalanya Local Authority Certification of the 2024-25 Local Authority Project Funding.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Strategic Plan Review
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

Matt Pearson joined the meeting at 2:00pm and left at 2:18pm.

GUN31/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Benefit Fund*; and
2. Seeks the Council supports to the upgrade of the Community Shelter Arrkuluk and Kakbi together with external stakeholders such as Gunbalanya Nominees, Emmanuel Church and Wurdwurd Foundation.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:18pm and reconvened at 2:35pm.

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Community Honour Board
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Honour Board.

This item was noted and discussed however no motion was made. Concern was expressed regarding the visibility of the names on the board.

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office.

GUN32/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kenneth Mangiru

Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office*; and
2. Replace stainless steel toilets to Vitreous China Pedestals \$9,555.00 with the Local Authority Funding.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.7
Title:	Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport.

Cr Ralph McCoy left the meeting at 2:41pm.

GUN33/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul

Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport*; and
2. Approves LOOCUBE ECOFLO Ablutions at the Gunbalanya Airport with an indicative cost of \$253,125.00 per supplied Concept Design through a Community Benefit Grant when Land Use Agreement has been endorsed by Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.8
Title:	Council Draft 2026-27 Regional Plan and Budget
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

This item was deferred.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Nil items were raised.

10 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 16 July 2026.

11 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting closed at 3:00pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 12 May 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 12 May 2026.