

WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING – TUESDAY, 21 APRIL 2009

MINUTES

Present:

Peter Clee	- President
Karen Duncan	- Deputy President
Rocco Magnoli	- Councillor
Vera Lamont	- Councillor
Darryl Withnall	- Councillor
Matt Prouse	- Councillor
Wally Lenyszyn	- Chief Executive Officer

Apologies: Trish McIntyre - Councillor

1. MEETING OPENING

President Clee opened the meeting at 7.00pm.

President Clee, on behalf of the Council, congratulated and welcomed Cr Prouse to the Council.

1 (a) APOLOGIES

Resolution No. 08/206

That the apology of Councillor McIntyre be accepted.

Moved: President Clee

Seconded: Cr Withnall

Vote: Carried 6-0

1(a) DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Monthly Council Meeting – 17 March 2009

Resolution No. 08/207

That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 17 March 2009 be accepted.

Moved: Cr Magnoli

Seconded: Cr Lamont

Vote: Carried 6-0

2.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Nil

3. INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee

The Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee is in the process of undertaking community consultation on its Regional Management Strategic Framework 2009-2013. There are three documents associated with the review;

1. Darwin Harbour Regional Management Strategic Framework 2009-2013
2. Report on the Review of the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management.
3. Information Paper on Offsets Program.

A public meeting, arranged by the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee, will be held at the Wagait Beach Community Centre on Wednesday 22 April 09 commencing at 6.00pm.

Information on the matter has been previously forwarded to Councillors with any comments arising being conveyed to the Committee at tomorrow night's meeting.

Received and Noted

3.2 The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Advising that the Government has extended the Roads to Recovery Program for a further five years. Over the next five years the Australian Government will provide \$1.75 billion directly to local councils to help fix local transport problems.

"A total of \$51,000,000 has been allocated to the Northern Territory. The amount for each State has been divided between the councils in the State on the basis of the 2008-09 recommendations of your Local Government Grants Commission for the roads component of the Financial Assistance Grants.

Your Council's life of the program allocation for the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2014 will be \$98,761 and your nominal allocation for 2009-10 is one fifth of this amount. These funds will be available from 1 July 2009." (G 1.9.1)

Received and Noted

3.3 Parliament of Australia

The Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government has thanked the Council for its submission into the inquiry into the impact of the global financial crisis on regional Australia.

The submission will be considered in the course of the Committees deliberations. (C 5)

Received and Noted

3.4 Dept. of Planning and infrastructure

Responding to Council's correspondence regarding the provision of a public toilet within the Mandorah Jetty precinct.

"The concerns raised by the Shire and the issues noted in relation to the proposed installation of toilet facilities will now be considered in the broader context of the requirement for the upgrading of the general car parking (for both ferry patrons and tourists) and specialised car/trailer parking for the users of the adjacent boat ramp and the need for a formalised bus parking bay(s) and shelter at the end of the jetty.

Options for the development of the site including traffic management solutions will be further discussed when they have been fully explored." (J 1)

Received and noted

3.5 The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Encouraging the Council to participate in the Walk Safely to School Day.

The day allocated for the event is 15 May 2009.

Councillors may recall that our participation last year involved children walking a distance along the Bicycle Path to the Jetty where they were provided with breakfast before boarding the ferry to school.

Should the Council desire, a similar event could be organised, or alternatively some other function could be held. (C 18.1)

Resolution No. 08/208

That Council support Walk Safely to School Day by way of arranging a walk/breakfast function at the jetty.

Moved: Cr Magnoli

Seconded: Cr Prouse

Vote: Carried 6-0

3.6 Telstra

Responding to Council's correspondence regarding providing ADSL to the Cox Peninsula Exchange.

"The infrastructure currently at the exchange is not able to provide ADSL at the Cox Peninsula exchange. Telstra are looking at ways to provide customers with a number of options to access Broadband, however at this point in time ADSL cannot be made available at Cox Peninsula.

We would like to provide broadband to more Australians and have created a campaign to address this issue."

Subsequent to this advice the Government has announced that they have discontinued the tender process for the provision of a national broadband service and proposes to establish an independent body to undertake the venture. The best explanation I have been able to find on what is happening is a report from the ALGA President:

“The Government has decided to opt for a fibre-to-the-home solution rather than the previously planned fibre-to-the-node network. This will deliver fibre (i.e. very fast broadband speeds) to 90% of Australian homes, schools and workplaces with the remaining population to be covered by wireless and satellite technology. Under this arrangement, 100% of the population will be covered by a minimum broadband speed of 12 mbps. This compares favourably with the original tender requirement and election commitment target of 98% of the population.

The network is to be rolled out at a cost of \$43 billion and will take until 2017 to be completed. Minister Conroy advised that all urban centres with populations of around 1000 or more will be covered by the fibre-to-the-home network. ALGA is currently seeking further details around the timing and staging of NBN implementation works.

The Minister also confirmed that the fibre-to-the-home network will not include the installation of major network boxes throughout residential neighbourhoods. Such technology would have been required under a fibre-to-the-node network. He advised that 70% of the network will be delivered through overhead wiring on existing infrastructure and 30% will be provided through underground cables. According to the Minister, the overhead wiring will be only marginally thicker than typical existing wiring and will be significantly less invasive than the cable rolled out for Pay-TV in the early 1990s.

The underground cabling will potentially require the digging up of footpaths, roads and nature strips. I have stressed to the Minister the need for local government to be consulted extensively around how these and other works will be undertaken. The Minister has given a commitment that local government will be engaged on these issues by the Government and the Authority established to deliver the network.

The Government has also announced today a new policy to mandate the provision of fibre to the home in new greenfield developments. This is an initiative that councils have long advocated for and is also a welcome development. This will mean that broadband services in new housing estates will be afforded a priority equal to typical essential services such as power, gas and water.

ALGA will continue to press for the provision of the best possible broadband services to all local communities and for recognition of the important role local councils can play in acting as anchor tenants for broadband in remote areas. We can expect the various implementation issues for councils associated with today's announcement to become clearer over the coming days and weeks and ALGA will continue to monitor these in conjunction with state and territory associations. (T 1)

Received and Noted

3.7 Minister for Local Government

Advising of appointments to the Local Government (Administration and Legislation) Advisory Council. The Council is established to provide advice to the Minister and Department of Local Government on legislative, administrative and operational questions relevant to local government.

The appointees are:

Mr Tony Tapsell, LGANT
Mr Wayne Wright, MacDonnell Shire
Mr Mark Griffioen, West Arnhem Shire
Ms Sandra Cannon, Victoria Daly Shire
Mr Frank Crawley, Darwin City
Mr Derrick Tranter, Litchfield Council
Ms Lisa Wilson, Dept LG
Ms Giovina D'Alessandro, Dept LG (N 3.1)

Received and Noted

3.8 Minister for Local Government

Responding to Council's representations to acquire crown land on the Cox Peninsula.

"The responsibility for land matters resides with the Minister for Planning and Lands, the Hon Delia Lawrie. I have been advised by her office that this matter is currently being considered and that Minister Lawrie will write to you in the near future."

Councillors will recall that Council initially made representations to the Minister for Planning and Lands to acquire two parcels of land at Wagait Beach/Mandorah.

The response we received was that the request was unable to be dealt with until the finalisation of the Kenbi Land Claim. Even though it was pointed out to the Minister that the subject land was excluded from the Claim.

Council's request has been protracted for over eight months without any reasonable reply. As a consequence, the Council at its last meeting resolved to seek a deputation to the Minister to enable the true facts to be disclosed.

This response from the Minister is a result of our request for him to arrange the deputation. (C 14.7)

Received and Noted

3.9 Australian Rural & Outback Awards

Individuals, community, farmers, youth leaders, and organisations have the chance to be recognised through a new awards program, The Australian Rural and Outback Awards.

There are five categories associated with the Awards, including, "The Golden Circle Health and Community Services Award."

The winners of each category will share in \$10,000 prize money.

Resolution No. 08/209

That Council enter the Wagait Beach Community Centre in the Australian Rural and Outback Awards.

Moved: Vice President Duncan
Seconded: Cr Lamont
Vote: Carried 6-0

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Resolution No.08/210

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow an address by the President of the Cox Country Club.

Moved: President Cleo
Seconded: Vice President Duncan
Vote: Carried 6-0

Ms Walford addressed the meeting on the Club's request for a monetary donation from the Council to assist the Club in purchasing promotional merchandise to be used as a fund raiser for the Club's 20 years celebrations. The following points were made by Ms Walford:

- At the present time the Club has only 6 of its 8 Committee Member positions filled.
- All energy is being targeted at increasing membership.
- The Club has been struggling and they are trying to raise the necessary funds to stage the 20 year celebrations.
- At the moment there are app. 128 members.
- Would like to put on an event that would be appealing to all of the community.
- There is a lack of interest in Committee Membership.
- Want to make the event a big community event and are seeking fund to be able by merchandise for resale.
- Goods are on standby and depend on whether the Club is able to raise the funds to purchase them.
- Will probably make \$500 - \$1,000 from the sale of the goods.
- The event is being held mainly to promote the Club.
- There is a lot of interest as the time approaches.
- Need to rely upon the community for the event to be successful.
- Activities planned include; Music, kids entertainment, jumping castle, lunch, story telling, and sporting events.

Resolution No.08/211
That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved: President Clee
Seconded: Vice President Duncan
Vote: Carried 6-0

Resolution No.08/212
That the Cox Country Club be advised that due to financial pressures imposed by the NT Government the Council is regrettably unable to sustain expenditures not within the current Budget.

Moved: President Clee
Seconded: Vice President Duncan
Vote: Carried 6-0

4. REPORTS:

4.1 CEO's Report

4.1.1 Council Vacancy

Nominations for the Council in the By-Election closed on the 16 April 2009.

Matt Prouse was the only nomination and was accordingly declared elected.

Councillors again congratulated Cr Prouse on his election,

Received and Noted

4.1.2 Monthly Status Report

Please find attached (Attachment. Pg 1) the current Status Report detailing action taken by Council staff on decisions made by the Council.

The report is open for any questions from Councillors.

Received and Noted

4.1.3 Future Directions Planning

Following Council's Community Meeting held for the purpose of determining priorities for future projects, the following table suggests future action that should be undertaken. A summary of the comments made at the Community Meeting are attached at Appendix Page No. 2.

Resolution No. 08/213
That Council undertake the following action in respect of issues raised at the Community Meeting on the matter of Council's Future Direction Plan.

ITEM NO.	ACTION
3	Establish cost of collection and requirements for Council to be included with the Belyuen household refuse collection.
14	Reintroduce containers at the Dump for the storage of individual recyclables. Make inquiries of Darwin firms that may be interested in the collection of recyclables. Undertake a waste audit prior to doing anything. Council to purchase a chipper and sell mulch back to community.
4	Council to seek an update from PowerWater as to the possibility and cost of providing reticulated water to Wagait Beach.
36	Make further representations to the Minister for Planning for a formal Planning Scheme for the Cox Peninsula area and a dedicated Development Consent Authority.
8	Council to formally resolve to support a bridge from Darwin.
9	Council make representations to Warren Snowdon for Wagait Beach postcode and post boxes.
10	Council seek the support of Jack Ellis in the determination of a fitness trail with appropriate exercise activities.
12	Council seek an update from its Consulting Engineer on the costings to enclose the Wagait Tower Road drain.
16	The Council contact the appropriate Authority to determine the requirements for the establishment of a helipad at the Sportsground able to accommodate a large helicopter.
18	Council seek the advice of the Department of Education on their requirements for the establishment of a pre-primary school at Wagait Beach.
19	That Council seek to have a meeting with the Larrakia Development Corporation for the purpose of discussing the following projects: Development of a Pre-Primary School, Business Incubator, Ant Hill area development, Senior Citizens Unit Complex, Milady Crash site and open up gun placements with walk trail.
25	That Council seek the support of DOPI in preparing a design for the completion of the Bicycle Path to Cox Drive.
27	That Council seek to have discussions on matters of mutual interest with the Belyuen community.
	That Council endorse the projects identified in the Future Directions List and where possible the projects be included in the Shire Plan.
	That the Chief Executive Officer keeps an eye out for grant funding opportunities for projects identified in Council's Future Directions Project List.

Moved: Cr Withnall
Seconded: Vice President Duncan
Vote: Carried 6-0

4.1.4 Annual Leave

I wish to advise council that I propose to take Annual Leave between the 2 May – 8 May and 1 June – 19 June.

Received and Noted

4.1.4 Policy Development

Policy Development will be ongoing with updates provided on a monthly basis until all matters that need addressing have been addressed.

This month, the following policies are presented for Council's consideration: (Refer Attachment Page No. 8)

- P 01 Policy Framework (Revision)
- P 05 Code of Conduct
- P 06 Wages and Salary Increases
- P 07 Vehicular Crossovers / Drainage
- P 17 Investment Policy
- P 18 Borrowing Policy

Policy No P 01 was adopted by the Council at its February meeting, however following a request from a number of Councillors, an abridged version is provided for consideration.

Resolution No. 08/214

That Council adopt Wagait Shire Council Policy No's P 05, P 06, P 07, P 17, P 18.

Moved: Cr Withnall
Seconded: Cr Lamont
Vote: Carried 6-0

4.1.5

4.1.6 Wagait Tower Road Bicycle Path

Attached at Appendix Pg. 18 are the latest plans for the Wagait Beach Bicycle Path.

To expedite the construction of the path Councillors were asked to comment on the proposal to enable tenders to be called.

Tenders for the path have now been called and close on the 22 April.

The Department has also agreed to Council's request for a Councillor to sit in on the opening and appraisal of quotations/tenders.

In addition, Cr Withnall will represent the Council in the determination of the floor level of the path. I am informed that this will take place following the selection of the Contractor.

Resolution No. 08/215

That Council endorse the approval of the plans and specifications for the construction of the Wagait Tower Road Bicycle Path and that President Clee, or in his absence Cr Withnall be the Council representative to observe the quotation/tender opening and appraisal.

Moved: Vice President Duncan
Seconded: Cr Magnoli
Vote: Carried 6-0

4.1.7 LGANT Annual and General and Annual Meeting

The President and I recently attended the LGANT Annual and General Meeting.

Matters of interest from the meeting included:

- History has been made in that the Federal Government has decided to directly fund local governments and by-passing State and Territory Governments.

The Minister for Local Government had the following to say:

- The new Shires are good structures, they need time to grow in the early stages.
- The Government only put up the framework for the new Shires. How it works will be up to the elected members.
- The Government is encouraging people to get together and share ideas.
- There has been a new structure introduced for the Department by way of decentralisation of Regional Managers. The Department would like to see decisions being made in regional areas.
- There is still work to be done on the reform as we still have unincorporated areas. The Government will support Wagait Beach and Coomalie in extending their boundaries.
- It has been a rocky road with the amalgamations to date. Can't say that it will not be in the future. It will be rough but we will get there.
- The NT Operations Grant has been based on the cost of servicing the new Shires.

A speaker from the Tasmanian Local Government Association addressed the meeting on forming Partnership Agreements with the state Government.

- An arrangement based on trust and goodwill with the Tasmanian Government sees the Government consulting with local government prior to making decisions or passing any legislation.
- Although the Agreement exists, it is recognised that the Government has the right to govern and they will from time to time make decisions without consultations. This has been recognised within the agreement and there is little concern when it does occur.

- The Agreement is an excellent tool and has established a more cordial working relationship between the Government, Government Departments and local government.

The Meeting was addressed on a new Strategic Plan for the Territory.

- Known as Territory 2030, the plan is focused on targets on what we would like to achieve by a certain date.
- A draft plan is to be released in April.
- The key elements of the plan are:
 - It provides a closer connection between two cultures
 - Focuses on education
 - Works on the fundamental needs (Housing)
 - Recasts the ways in which we do things (ecological footprint)
 - Broadening out jobs
 - Developing one sense of identity
- The Committee responsible for developing the plan has identified 180 targets. They would like to get this back to 50.
- The final Plan will be released in July and reviewed on a regular basis.

There were a number of other issues associated with the Annual Meeting that raised concern over the problems being experienced by the new Shires.

The following motions were moved by President Clee and carried by the Annual meeting:

“That LGANT urge the NT Government to undertake (independent of the NT Government) a full and frank review of the NTLG Reform process and that such a review be wide ranging and all inclusive.”

“That prior to the finalisation of the NT Operations Grant funding formula the Minister for local government be asked to ensure that no council be disadvantaged as a consequence of the new formula.”

Received and Noted

4.1.8 Shire Boundary Review

On the 31 March representatives from Wagait Shire, Coomalie Council and Belyuen Council met for the purpose of considering expanding boundaries to incorporate the remainder of Territory unincorporated land within the top end of the Territory. (Refer Attachment Pg No 19)

All Councils were aware of the Government’s intentions that there no longer be any unincorporated areas and that all land within the Territory be part of a Shire. There is currently 19,263 km sq of unincorporated land in the top end.

The Government has provided an initial \$20,000 for a review of the top end status.

All Councils made reference to declining funding support from the Government.

All Councils agreed to participate in the review, and with support from the Department of Local Government, to engage a Consultant to initially inform communities located within unincorporated areas that a review will be undertaken and the expectations of the Government.

Received and Noted

4.1.9 TOPROC Meeting

A meeting of TOPROC was held on 19 March 2009. The Minister for Local Government was in attendance. (Refer Attachment Page No. 22)

Quite a number of matters were considered, including:

- Role of elected members sitting on the Development Consent Authority.
- Invitation to Minister for Transport to attend next meeting.
- Regional Waste Management
- Kenbi Land Claim
- Harbour Bridge
- Grants Commission funding

Received and Noted

Works Report:

5.1.1 General Matters

5.1.1.1 Wagait Tower Road Blackspot Report

Council's Consulting Engineer has prepared a report (Ref Attachment Pg No. 29) on a possible Blackspot grant application to undertake improved traffic management at the Wagait Beach Supermarket.

The proposal provides for a single entry and exit points to the Supermarket carpark instead of the existing five, the widening of the road adjacent to the Supermarket by approximately 10 metres to accommodate four lanes of traffic and cover the open drain for a distance of app. 120 metres to allow the road widening.

The estimated cost of the work is \$280,000.

Resolution No. 08/216

That Council endorse the Consulting Engineers Report for an application for Blackspot funding to improve the safety of traffic movement adjacent to the Wagait Beach Supermarket conditional upon there being provision for busses and trucks being able to access fuel pumps and manoeuvring within the property.

Moved: Cr Lamont
Seconded: Cr Withnall
Vote: Carried 6-0

5.1.1.2 Sportsground Bore

Council's Consulting Engineer has prepared a report (Ref Attachment Pg No. 41) on the sinking of a bore at the Sportsground.

This report emanates from the development of the Wagait Beach Community Centre and funds allocated to increase the water capacity for the Centre, particularly in the event of a cyclone.

The eventual proposal is for a bore at the Sportsground to supply water via pipes to the Community Centre.

The Council has received two conflicting reports on the development of the Sportsground bore and therefore we are now providing an option to determine exactly what the situation is.

The Chief Executive Officer requested and the Council agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

5.2.0 **Works Supervisor's Report**

Mr Zikan has submitted the following report: for March/April 2009:

5.2.1 Dump

The Works Dept. is continually repairing the fence in front of the hole due to the damage it sustains.

More time than is usually necessary is being used to tidy up after the dumping practices of those responsible.

Raking of the disposal area continues to be undertaken three times per week and burning of the hole is undertaken two days per week, when weather permits. Green waste was pushed up.

The cost of removing or burying the existing rubble at the rear of the dump is prohibitive. Therefore, new areas for car bodies and building waste will have to be cleared.

It is good to see the waste oil station is being used.

It was suggested that when an area is cleared there be designated areas for the deposit of hard waste, ie car area, white goods area, concrete area etc.

Cr Lamont advised that she would be prepare to assist with laying out the area and provision of signage.

5.2.2 Water

The overhead tank which sprung a leak has been repaired and has been recommissioned. The system is now operating normally.

Whipper snipping of the area surrounding tank stands.

5.2.3 Jetty

The potholes at the end of the Jetty have been repaired.

The rusted and broken Handrails are in the hands of the appropriate Government Dept. We have notified them of the problem and were paid a visit by a Department representative who was shown the damage which needed repair. He left us with an assurance that a contractor would attend to the above mentioned repair job. When, we were not told.

Painting of the wooden rails has begun.

Regular washing down and removal of litter undertaken

There continues to be an increase in the amount of litter in the carpark, particularly under the large tree.

A rubbish bin has been placed under this tree, once again, and continues to be picked up and placed back in it's upright position. Having said that, this bin is being used.

Mowing of the area took place.

Concern was expressed that the rails had not been repaired.

5.2.4 Wildlife

The Pig Trap has been in place for 2 weeks now, but sadly, no pigs have been trapped. The trap is continually checked and baited.

The Feral Dog and Cat problem has abated somewhat for the time being

5.2.5 Estate

The Government, at their cost, is sending a person over to spray Gamba Grass and Mission Grass. This is very helpful but would have been better earlier in the year. There are some instances of these Grasses which have popped up since our last spraying.

Regular mowing of verges has taken place.

5.2.6 Council Grounds

New Signage has been erected at the access roads to the Council Office and Workshop

The Community Centre Genset continues to be started on a fortnightly basis.

5.2.7 Sportsground

The new container has been welded in place and a new padlock fitted. One Container is to hold the Sporting Equipment and the other is to hold the tables, chairs and barbeque.

5.2.8 Other Non-Scheduled Work

Other non scheduled duties undertaken during the period included:

- Connection of Sportsground water tank.
- Soap Dispenser installed at Community Centre.
- Leak repaired in Community Centre Consultation Room.
- Tractor serviced
- Z Trac has had 300 hr service
- Replace Ute Battery
- Tractor & Ute puncture repairs
- New pressure pump for Community Centre
- Hand chlorination of Water Tank
- Check airplane access road.
- Spray weeds around Council Office and Community Centre

Tabled and Noted

Sport & Recreation Report:

6.3.1 General Matters

6.3.2 Recreation Officer's Report

Mr Joshua Chaplin has presented the following report:

Over the past month there has been a wide range of activities; from fishing competition, movie night, Smile-A-Mile arts and craft and the regular sporting activities.

At the moment I am ordering the table tennis equipment for the 'Smoke Free Table Tennis Championship' which the first game will be held on Sunday 26th of April and after that it will be held monthly. There will be prizes for winners and vital information for youths about smoking.

On Sunday 5th of April it was the Fishing Club, Youth Week fishing competition for all the youth. There were a total of 20 kids at the event; the winners were spread over the group with; JC winner for the girls, Josh winner for the boys and Isaac winner of the mystery fish. The day

was a very successful and the Fishing Club is looking to do it again next year.

On Sunday 7th of April Tanya and the team from Smile-A-Mile came over to do arts and craft. There were over a dozen kids that turned up to the sports ground for the morning. She will be over again in the June/July school holidays.

On the 6th of April I completed my bronze medallion certificate so I can now expand the ranged of sporting activities, with the youth and elderly.

Sunday 8 th Mar	Beach	17
Thursday 12 th	Sports grounds	16
Sunday 15 th	Beach	21
Monday 16 th	Sports grounds	12
Tuesday 17 th	Sports grounds	18
Thursday 19	Sports grounds	20
Monday 23 rd	Sports grounds	16
Tuesday 24 th	Sports grounds	15
Thursday 26 th	Sports grounds	12
Sunday 29 th	Beach	22
Thursday 2 nd Apr	Sports grounds	16
Sunday 5 th	Beach	20
Tuesday 7 th	Sports grounds	14
Tuesday 7 th	Sports grounds	19
Thursday 9 th	Sports grounds	13
Saturday 11 th	Community Centre	29

It was suggested that when activities are undertaken at the beach an additional adult should be present.

It was suggested that the Sport and Recreation Officer should write to parents of children participating in activities and establish a roster of at least on parent to assist when activities are being undertaken.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Resolution No. 08/217

That the Officer's reports be received and accepted.

**Moved: Cr Withnall
Seconded: Cr Lamont
Vote: Carried 6-0**

7. OTHER OR LATE CORRESPONDENCE:

Monthly Mail List – Inward Correspondence: (Refer Att. Pg 46)

Monthly Mail List – Outward Correspondence: (Refer Att. Pg 48)

Late Correspondence:

Resolution No. 08/218

That the Inwards Correspondence be received and the Outwards correspondence be confirmed.

Moved: President Clee
Seconded: Cr Withnall
Vote: Carried 6-0

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Financial Report:

- 8.1.1 Program Report by Account S 13 LG (Acc) Regs: (Ref Att, Pg 50)
- 8.1.2 Bank Reconciliation Statements (Refer Attachment Pg 74)
- 8.1.3 Invoices Paid March (Refer Attachment Pg 77)
- 8.1.4 Outstanding Rates (Tabled)

Resolution No. 08/219

That the March Monthly Financial Reports be accepted.

Moved: Cr Magnoli
Seconded: Cr Prouse
Vote: Carried 6-0

8.2 Recycling Grant

The NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport are currently calling for applications for funding from the Environment Grant fund.

Grants are made available for environmental projects and educational activities in the Territory focusing on assisting the NT Community to develop better awareness and understanding of recent developments in environmental management, help the community become wiser at efficiently using our non-renewable resources, re-using waste products and reducing our greenhouse emissions.

Funding, up to \$10,000, is available to support the following categories of projects:

- Promote sustainable resource management
- Increase environmental awareness
- Improve environmental management practices
- Mitigate environmental impacts
- Focus on wildlife conservation issues

It would appear that the program may suite the Council in undertaking works associated with waste management. In particular, I am suggesting that the Council attempt to reintroduce recycling by providing suitable containers/receptacles at the Dump in which people can deposit a variety of recyclables.

The amount to be applied for would be \$10,000 to ensure that the receptacles are large enough to accommodate large volumes and sturdy enough so that they will not be vandalised.

Resolution No. 08/220

That Council submit a funding application in the amount of \$10,000 to the Department of Environment for the purpose of providing recycling receptacles at the Wagait Beach Dump.

Moved: Cr Withnall

Seconded: Cr Lamont

Vote: Carried 6-0

8.3 2009 – 10 Budget

Work is now sufficiently advanced on the 2009–10 Budget whereby discussions with Council are warranted.

Accordingly, Council is asked to fix a time for a meeting to be held.

In conjunction with the budget the Council is required to prepare a Shire Plan and Long Term Financial Plan. All documents are required to be completed by the 31 July.

The Shire Plan requires an advertising period of 21 days and then a meeting to consider any submissions. This would mean that we would need to advertise in the June edition of the Wagaitear to enable adoption of the plan to take place at the July Meeting.

As the Shire Plan is reliant upon the Budget, and given that I will be away during the first week of May and majority of June, a workshop meeting in April to consider the budget would be appreciated. This would allow for the Shire Plan to be drafted in May for advertising in June.

The Council agreed that a Budget Workshop be held on Sunday 3 May commencing at 10.00am.

9. AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Library Books

Cr Duncan expressed concern that the book stock maintained at the Council Office was not being made known to the community.

Cr Duncan suggested that the books be relocated to the Community centre and that we attempt to find volunteers to man the Centre of an evening so that persons working would have access to the books.

10.2 Memorial Garden

Cr Duncan advised that it was always her impression that ashes would be allowed to be placed in the Memorial Garden Wall and that she had heard rumours to the contrary.

Other Councillors indicated that it was their understanding that ashes would be permitted.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that he would investigate the matter.

11. IN-CAMERA ITEMS

Nil

12. MEETING CLOSE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

President Clee closed the meeting at 8.55pm. .

The next monthly Council Meeting is to be held on 19 May 2009 at 7.00pm.

PRESIDENT: _____

DATE: _____

CEO: _____

DATE: _____