



# CENTRAL DESERT REGIONAL COUNCIL

two ways :: one outcome

## MINUTES LAJAMANU LOCAL AUTHORITY WEDNESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2021

The Lajamanu Local Authority Meeting of the Central Desert Regional Council was held in the Lajamanu Council Office on Wednesday, 17 November 2021 at 10:00AM.

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Meeting opened: 10:30AM**

Sheree Anderson arrived at 11:00AM

## 1 ADMINISTRATION

### LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS

	PRESENT	APOLOGY	Staff and Guests
Sheree Anderson (Deputy Chair)	✓		Leslie Manda – Acting CEO
Cr Andrew Johnson		✓	Cr. Adrian Dixon - President
Jenny Johnson		✓	Samadhi Nisansala - Governance officer
Maxie Gordon	✓ (Dial-in)		
Lindon Gordon		Absent	
Shaun Johnson	✓ (Dial-in)		

Meeting status: Provisional Quorum

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Local Authority (LA) reviewed the Code of Conduct.

Maxie Gordon and Shaun Johnson declared Conflict of Interest because they work for the Council

### ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

LA nominated Maxie Gordon to the acting chair for the meeting.

*Laj005/2021* **RESOLUTION ( Maxie Gordon/ Shaun Johnson)**  
That the Local Authority appoints Maxie Gordon as the Acting Chairman.

## **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

*Laj006/2021* **RESOLUTION ( Maxie Gordon/ Shaun Johnson)**  
That the Local Authority confirm the minutes from the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

As there was a Provisional Quorum, minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were held over until the next meeting.

## **2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS**

### **2.1 Local Authority Projects**

The Acting CEO updated the projects that are currently in progress; Trees at holy ground and Three Solar Lights. Both the projects are currently waiting for the quotes and the approval of the additional funds.

Additional funds for following project has been approved.

*Laj007/2021* **RESOLUTION ( Maxie Gordon/ Shaun Johnson)**  
Installation of the tree guards at Holy Ground. Additional \$10,000 has been approved.

*Laj008/2021* **RESOLUTION (Cr Maxie Gordon/Cr Shaun Johnson)**  
Installation of solar lights. Additional \$13,000 has been approved.

The Acting CEO mentioned that the council is also waiting for the quotes of previously proposed LA projects; Two Big Grandstands at the oval and Solar Lights at the cemetery. The LA noted that the two Big Grandstand projects should be prioritised at the first place and will likely be done in two stages depending on cost.

Additional proposed project to be endorsed by Council:

*Laj009/2021* **RESOLUTION (Maxie Gordon/ Shaun Johnson)**

The LA proposed grassing the oval to be consider as a LA project.

Response: The Acting CEO noted that the council happy to support this project after the consultation with Power and Water regarding water usage approval as well as LA consideration of maintenance costs of the irrigation system at the oval. Acting CEO added that grassing ovals is a topical issue that has been raised in a number of LAs and Council approval will be needed as this will add to Council's services.

## **2.2 Community Safety Patrol Reference Group**

No issues. Working well.

## **2.3 LA Action Register**

No Items.

## **3 COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Attached Reports**

#### **Previous Council Decisions**

The Local Authority noted resolutions from the previous Council meeting.

#### **Finance Report**

The Local Authority noted the finance report.

#### **Council Services Report**

The Local Authority reviewed and noted the Council Services Report.

The Acting CEO inform the LA that the council recently completed the works of additional speed humps and traffic signs near the school in Lajamanu.

### **3.2 General Business**

#### **1. List the top 3 things Council should achieve in the next 4 Years.**

1. Public Toilets
2. Regular maintenance of public places such as parks and ovals.

## 2. List the top 3 things Council should fight for in the next 4 years.

The LA requested more time to discuss and decide.

### Other open questions

1. Question : Renovation and maintenance of the public toilets at Holy Ground.

Response : The Acting CEO noted the request and mentioned this will put forward to council in its planning for the next regional plan as this will result in an increase in council services and will require budget allocation.

2. Install a tap at the Man's bow shed area.

Response : The Acting CEO mentioned that he will check with Power and Water to get their approval for the installation and will advise the LA at the next meeting.

3. Residents were unaware of the process of the LG election such as how individuals can nominate the candidates for the election, why did the community not go to election and why does Lajamanu only have two councillors and not more like Southern Tanami.

Response : The Acting CEO explained the process of the NT LG election and the Election Law works in terms of the number of nominations vs the number of vacancies and explained that if the number of vacancies is equal to the number of nominations then the ward does not go to poll (voting).

Acting CEO added that the number of councillors of the wards are determined by the population and the number of people registered in the electoral roll. The Acting CEO noted that it seems like communication has not been done properly during the election period and he will provide this feedback to NTEC for their future consideration.

4. Covid-19 Plan / Disaster recovery plan for Lajamanu community as a whole – Not having a proper plan for the event of covid-19 outbreak and availability of a proper quarantine facility were raised as a concern.

Response: The Acting CEO noted the issue and will forward to the NT Health who have the overarching responsibility for COVID Plans across all remote communities. Acting CEO advised that NT Health has a remote outbreak plan which includes locking down a community, flying infected person/s to nearby quarantine centres and working with LECs to manage community movements.

5. The Acting CEO discussed the CHO's directions on mandatory vaccination, rapid antigen testing and mask requirements when travelling in and out from communities with low vaccination rates. LA were requested to provide the evidence of vaccination or if unable to sign an acknowledgment letter noting that they may not be able to attend the Council office for LA meetings and may only do so via teleconference until a time Council makes its determination.

## **4 OTHER BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Petitions and Deputations**

Nil

### **4.2 Northern Territory Government Report**

Nil

## **CLOSE OF MEETING**

Meeting closed 11:37AM.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Lajamanu Local Authority meeting held on Wednesday, 17 November 2021 and unconfirmed.