

**Nhulunbuy Town Board**  
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting  
Nhulunbuy Corporation Board Room, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory  
Tuesday 24 January 2023 at 8:30am

**1. Present**

Max Duncan (MD)	Chairperson (Nhulunbuy Corporation)
Linda Alexander (LA)	Member
Megan Niven (MN)	Member
Ineke Wallis (IW)	Member
Nathan Graetz (NG) Teams	Member
Stacie Irving (SI)	Secretary

**2. Apologies**

Cathryn Moore (CM)	NT Government (NTG) Representative Proxy
Vicki Blackler (VB)	Rio Tinto (RTA) Gove Operations

**3. Conflict of Interest**

None noted

**4. Confirmation of Minutes – 22 November 2022**

**Moved:** MN  
**Seconded:** LA  
*Carried 5/0*

**5. Business Arising from Minutes**

It was noted that the following from the **Action List** were updated (see *Action List November 2022*).

*57/19 Pedestrian Crossing on Chesterfield Circuit* – MD updated board members that a detailed planning has been completed. Due to new membership on Town Board MD has been speaking with RTA and NTG representatives regarding project funding and will present the project plan to board members for information in the February board meeting. – *Review February 2023.*

*111/22 – Recycling Storage in Wet Season* – NC has spoken to a contractor already processing recyclables about using their area as a hub for recycling with no agreement in place at present. MD further discussed waste management regarding the collection of recyclables during the wet season as well as the possibility of an ongoing recyclable container collection from residences to minimise containers being disposed of into landfill. The restructuring of the waste collection regime is being considered in the NC 2023 budget process. – *Review February 2023.*

*112/22 – Changes to Town Board Agenda items for TO Inclusion* – MD conducted discussions with RTA regarding changes to the Nhulunbuy Town Board Constitution MD to review the current meeting agenda calendar and present to the TB regarding the inclusion of specific agenda items to focus on Yolgnu leader involvement. NC wishes to conduct meetings on country three to four times per year going forward. NC to develop and engagement plan for traditional owner groups. – *Review February 2023.*

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Secretary: *Stacie Irving*  
Date: 23 February 2023

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Chairperson: *Maxwell Duncan*  
Date: 21 February 2023

## 6. Correspondence - In

### Application for Home Trading – A+ Active

#### Documents Tabled were:

- Community Assistance Application Form
- Mobile Service Provider Application Form
- Insurance Certificate of Currency
- Home Trading Application Assessment
- Plan of Property
- Business Registration
- Letter of Permission from Landlord
- Qualifications
- Business Plan

#### It was resolved that:

Town Board members support the application to conduct a Home Trading Business as a fitness and personal training Home Trading and Mobile Service provider business.

**Moved:** MN

**Seconded:** LA

*Carried 5/0*

## 7. Correspondence – Out

### Letter of Support – Home Trader Application – All Arnhem Electrical & Pressure Washing

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled.

### Letter of Support – Home Trader Application – Arnhem Scent

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled.

### Letter to Gove Peninsula Harmony Group – Regarding changes to the Liquor Permit System

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled and noted the Gove Peninsula Harmony Group will conduct a meeting in February 2023.

### Email from Resident - Regarding 3 Dog Permit Exemption

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled and noted that the Nhulunbuy Corporation (Animal Control) by-laws are awaiting ministerial promulgation containing a discretionary provision to allow an applicant to apply for more than two dog permits on a case-by-case basis.

### Email from NT Licencing – Home Trader Application – Regarding the sale of Vaping Products on the Gove Peninsula.

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Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled and requested that MD draft a letter to NT licencing representative the Nhulunbuy Town Board would not approve a Home Trading Permit to sell vaping products in the East Arnhem Region.

## 8. Monthly Ops Report November / December 2022

Items referenced by exception in the October operations report:

- **Safety Focus** – MD has addressed the organisation's safety focus in December 2022 is compliance not complacency due to two incidents, one employee fall from a vehicle and a near miss with a tradesperson working at Gove Airport.
- **Upcoming Works Focus** – NC to focus on the following upcoming projects of the Town Centre Revitalisation, Westal Street water infrastructure upgrade and the Town Board project focus of the Hindle Lights Replacement Project.
- **Infrastructure Charges Notices** – MD outlined the first planning and Infrastructure charges notice, this will be taken to the board of directors for major developments consistent with modern planning. The infrastructure charges are in relation to water, sewerage, reserves, parks & gardens to help maintain existing and perform upgrades to community assets necessary as part of major developments.
- **Rates Notices** – MD disseminated information regarding the two types of Waste Management voucher schemes NC are offering in 2023 which will be emailed with the rates notices. NC have introduced the first small business and home trader voucher to help stop illegal dumping. NC are presenting a preferred supplier list and encourage all local businesses apply to be included. MD also noted that the Rates flyer containing information about the NC 2022 achievements and also so very important information regarding increases in fees & charges and introduction of new daily water connection charges being implemented in quarter one 2023..
- **Shopping Trolley Issues** – MD noted that NC may be required to come back to the Town Board members with a different regime that was previously proposed, possibly collection by NC and more compliance model. MD has applied for a grant for transition from the corrections / custody system which still hasn't been determined, also a proposal still sits with Woolworths head office regarding the involvement of Datjala Work Camp as a community service project.
- **Additional Disability Parking** – MD updated that this will be rolled out in 2023 regarding the disability access initiative in the Woolworths carpark.
- **Asbestos Waste Disposal** – MD has conducted extensive discussions with Gumatj Aboriginal Corporation regarding the disposal of listed waste from large scale projects at the Gove Peninsula Waste Management Facility.
- **NT Bowls Meeting** – MD meet with a representative who expressed the organisations wish to propose the development of a whole new facility near the Cat shed.
- **Arnhem Club Precinct** – MD noted the lack of development conditions that possibly should have been imposed as part of the sub-lease sale. MD has approached the NTPFES about compliance and fire regulations and enforcement.

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**It was resolved that:**

Town Board members approved the Operations Report for November / December with no exceptions.

**Moved:** MN

**Seconded:** IW

*Carried 5/0*

**9. General Business****Bin Sticker Project**

MD noted that NC have conducted meetings with local vendor who has assisted by providing two different products with different pricing for the two options, NC is minded going with the local provider.

NC will roll out the Bin Stickers once sufficient consideration has been given to possible changes to the weekly waste collections and possibility of the implementation of recycling schemes.

JR to investigate minor grant funding through NTG road safety funding rounds and report back to the Nhulunbuy Town Board in early 2023.

**Flyer distribution with Rates Notices**

MD referenced the flyer being sent out with the 2023 Property Rates Notices, some items contained within are our achievements for 2022, a proposed community meeting for the last week of February 2023, addressing the following matters:

- Regularisation of fees and charges such as daily water connection fee of 43c per day which is half the power and water rate across the territory.
- Property rates increase by 4.5% which are still lower than any other council increases.
- Other fees that are being considered in the future such as a differential rating system for residential, multi dwelling and industrial and commercial properties consistent with all other councils throughout the country.
- MN stated possible push back from the large increase in property valuations, property rates increasing the life and term of the town is decreasing. MD noted that NC have received approximately five objections to the valuations.
- MD referenced the necessity of improved communications regarding future rates increases and that the process regarding the town transition with regard to land tenure is set to commence in 2023.

**Youth Round Table** - Two young people have been nominated from the East Arnhem region, Sophia Rogers from Nhulunbuy and Chloe Lamont Groote Eylandt for the Minister for Youth Round Table.

**Positive Animal Management Feedback** - Positive customer feedback regarding rectification of problem poultry.

**Feedback from Elected Members**

- **Animal Management** – LA noted that advertisement had been posted regarding an animal boarding business in town.

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- **Town Centre Toilets** – Opening hours are 5AM until 8PM to reflect the opening hours of Woolworths and the times people use the town centre. MD to discuss the opportunity for extension of the hours.
- **Japanese Encephalitis** - LA noted that NT health had advertised the increased prevalence and high risk of the disease in Northern Territory and had provided public health messaging which had been removed from the noticeboards in the town centre. NC to conduct some community engagement around livestock such as pigs on town lease.
- **GPHG and Liquor Permit Changes** – IW brought up the issue and the addressing of indigenous health and wellbeing regarding the permit system. NTG have put a lot of focus and funding into amending the current permit system instead of addressing the core issues from an educational and community engagement perspective. IW would like to see the community become an example to other indigenous communities and get to a point where there is no need for a liquor permit system.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9:46 am.

Next meeting: 8:30am Tuesday 21 February 2023.

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