

Nhulunbuy Town Board
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Nhulunbuy Corporation Board Room, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory
Tuesday 29 October 2024 at 8:40am

1. Present

Shane Whitten (SW)	Chairperson (Nhulunbuy Corporation)
Megan Niven (MN)	Member
Vicki Blackler (VB)	RTA Representative (Teams)
Jim Rogers (JR)	NTG Representative
Wesley Van Zanden (WVZ)	Member
Stacie Irving (SI)	Secretary

2. Apologies

Nathan Graetz (NG)	Member
Catherine Fielke (CF)	Member
Mandaka Marika (MM)	RAC Representative

3. Conflict of Interest

None Noted.

4. Confirmation of Minutes – 24 September 2024

Moved: JR
Seconded: WVZ
Carried 5/0

5. Business Arising from Minutes

It was noted that the following from the **Action List** were updated (see *Action List September 2024*).

113/23 – Town Centre Revitalisation Committee – SW updated board members that NC will send out the Activate Territory Proposal out of session for discussion at the November meeting. SW also noted the three shade structures will be installed near the courthouse before Christmas 2024 in the area determined by board members. - Review November 2024.

117/24 - NC to invite OIC from Nhulunbuy Police to attend next month's Town Board Meeting - SW noted that representatives from NT Police will attend today's meeting to provide an update to board members on crime statistics since their last update and participate in the E-Bike / E-Scooter discussion. – Review November 2024.

6. Correspondence - In

For Decision: Application for Partnership Program – 4C's Community Centre

Document Tabled were:

- Community Assistance Grant Application Form
- Public Liability Insurance Certificate of Currency
- Quote for Scope of Works – Complete rust repairs.

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It was resolved that:

Town Board members support the application for Community Assistance funding to repair rust on the 4C's building prior to painting.

Moved: JR

Seconded: MN

Carried 5/0

Email Resignation of Elected Member - Nathan Graetz.

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled. SW also noted the email response of thanks sent by the Chair on behalf of the Town Board. JR reiterated the Nhulunbuy Town Board express their gratitude for his service to the Nhulunbuy Town Board and the wider Nhulunbuy Community.

SW also noted that given the elected position has become vacant within 12 months of a scheduled election, the town board can decide that we complete the election to fill the casual vacancy in the first half of 2025 during the usual election cycle.

7. Correspondence – Out**Home Trading Permit - Letter of Support - Dhaptics Photography.**

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled.

Community Assistance Application - Letter of Support - Nhulunbuy Amateur Swimming Club.

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled.

Email Regarding Airport Passenger Numbers.

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled. JR noted the email contained great data and will be useful identifying trends towards transition for Gove Peninsula Futures Reference Group and the town master planning. SW also detailed the recent incident and subsequent emergency response.

Email Regarding Town Board Membership.

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled.

Letter to CEO of DLI Regarding Cyclone Shelter.

Town Board members noted the correspondence as tabled. SW noted that NC had received an acknowledgement of receipt of the correspondence.

Email regarding E Scooters to Police Media Liaison Officer & Guest Attendance 9:20am - Brentley Holmes & Jodi Nobbs NT Police.**Discussion was held with the following discussion points:**

SW noted the number of incidents raised internally by staff experiencing incidents with E-Bikes and E-Scooters.

NC reached out to police media regarding the legality of these types of vehicles and whether they are permitted to be used on the road network.

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NT police Media confirmed that they are in the process of education, non-enforcement stance, whilst confirming that if there is significant misuse they were minded to conduct an extensive education campaign initially, before progressing to a blanket enforcement regime.

JR suggesting the town board should be engaging with the community, we should be encouraging a better education campaign for parents and children and a concerted education campaign led by NT Police, Town board and the Nhulunbuy Corporation. The implication of not seeing an improvement in the misuse should be enforcement.

JR noted there has not been a lot of education conducted through social media channels in Nhulunbuy and this may address 90% of the misuse and then only 10% would progress through to the enforcement in the end.

MN noted the reference on NTG website to BEAM scooters as opposed to other E Scooters.

JR raised the possibility of considering the introduction of by-laws around the use of E bikes and E scooters or is it Territory wide legislation that does not support the introduction of by-laws.

School based constable has conducted education campaigns throughout all age groups at Nhulunbuy High School. NT legislation has not caught up with the manufacture of these devices however NT legislation states that the only legal E Scooters are the BEAM scooters within the designated areas of Darwin. All other devices are currently illegal in public places.

NT Police about to roll into a significant traffic focus leading into the festive season.

SI mentioned the positive reinforcement used in other campaigns such as wearing helmets could work with the instance of misuse of these devices.

JR to take an action to investigate governance over the exemptions in Darwin CBD which will inform board members whether the introduction of by-laws regarding E bikes and E scooters.

NT Police provided updates on the following topics:

- NT Police will have a new OIC in Nhulunbuy in mid-November.
- Noted that road fatalities are double the number of 2023, hence the traffic focus towards the festive season.
- Property crime has halved since last reported to board members in July, one of the contributing factors is more Electronic Monitoring Devices (EMD) in use with legislative process supporting increased monitoring of high risk / repeat offenders.
- NT police have stats that indicate the incidence of secondary supply has decreased significantly due to the Liquor Permit changes trial promoting easier identification of secondary supply.
- Liquor accord committee has been meeting regularly to discuss matters to do with the purchase of alcohol in Nhulunbuy.
- LEMP will conduct their first meeting on 7th November in preparation for cyclone season.
- Noted DV and family violence statistics territory wide still tracking up however in the Gove Peninsula statistics are stable or tracking down.
- Nhulunbuy Police will bring a speed camera to town for the targeted traffic focus along with the mobile CCTV camera which will be placed in specific locations in and around town.
- NT Police have been seizing increased amounts of Kava both in communities and around Nhulunbuy.
- MN noted that vaping in the schools is increasingly prevalent.

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NT police to reach out to NC with more specific detailed information regarding the maintenance or additional lighting in and around the Walkabout precinct and Westal Street Area.

JR updated that CMC would be keen to support the free entry to Nhulunbuy Aquatic Centre for the festive season.

9:45am JR left the meeting due to prior commitments.

8. Monthly Ops Report September 2024

The Nhulunbuy Town Board tabled and noted the Operations Report for September 2024 with the following items referenced by exception.

9. General Business

Activate Territory Report

SI to send the proposal out of session for discussion in November meeting.

Australia Day Awards Vote

MN declared a conflict of interest as a nominee for one of the awards.

Feedback from Elected Members

WVZ requested an update on the discussion in the September meeting around the provision of vet services in Nhulunbuy, SW noted that the Board of Directors discussed ways Nhulunbuy Corporation may offer support however the process would need collaboration between various stakeholders such as DEAL, NTG and the Nhulunbuy Corporation.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 10:33am.

Next meeting: 8:30am Tuesday 26 November 2024.

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