

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

9 November 2017

Meeting No. 71

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

J Booth, M Fennell, J Ferguson, J Fort, M Marsland, C Michelmore

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Outback Communities Authority office, 12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta on 9 November 2017 at 11.35 am

Present:

C Woolford (Chair), J Booth, M Fennell, J Ferguson, J Fort and M Marsland (OCA Members), M Sutton (Director, OCA), and B Gough and B Honan (OCA staff).

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to meeting 71 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA).

An apology was received from Member Michelmore.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Chair referred to the meeting with the Local Government Grants Commission (LGGC) that had taken place earlier in the day. The Chair and Members agreed that the meeting was very informative and look forward to continuing the strong working relationship with the LGGC.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Member Ferguson advised that she had recently been appointed to the Nature Foundation Council. The Chair and Members congratulated Member Ferguson on her appointment.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2017 were circulated.

Moved by Member Fort
Seconded by Member Booth

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 20 September 2017, meeting number 70 be adopted.

Carried.

4.2 Business arising from minutes.

4.2.1 Oodnadatta Development Project (Ref. Agenda item 3.1, Meeting No. 55; Agenda item 4.2.5, Meeting No. 5; Agenda item 4.2.2, Meeting No. 60)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that this matter has not progressed although it is hoped that an update will be provided at the December meeting.

- 4.2.2 Auditor General's 2015-16 Report (Ref. Agenda item 6.5, Meeting No. 65)
The Chair referred discussion to the Governance Manager who advised that work on the Risk Register is continuing and it is envisaged that it will be provided at the December meeting. The Governance Manager confirmed that an over-arching policy will also be provided for the Member's consideration.
- 4.2.3 Outback Memorial Park (Ref. Agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 65)
The Chair advised that Member Marsland, the Director and the Chair will work on developing an expression of interest document and that this is a priority for December.
- 4.2.4 Public Toilet Facilities on the Barrier Highway (Ref. Agenda item 6.1, Meeting No. 66)
The Chair referred to the workshop regarding public facilities owned by the Outback Communities Authority that occurred on the previous day, therefore this matter can be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.5 oneOutback Prospectus Communications Plan (Ref. Agenda item 4.2.5, Meeting No. 67)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that the oneOutback prospectus has been forwarded to an extensive number of dignitaries, agencies and general recipients and a media release will occur immediately. This matter can be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.6 Andamooka Town Management Committee (Ref. Agenda item 12.1, Meeting No. 69)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that this matter had been delayed due to the Chair's illness but will be finalised in the very near future, therefore the matter can be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.7 Correspondence Register (Ref. Agenda item 6.3, Meeting No. 70)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that this matter has been included in this agenda, refer to item 5, therefore remove from the Action List.
- 4.2.8 Regional Development Australia Far North Quarterly Report (Ref. Agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 70)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that at the September meeting, Member Ferguson sought clarification regarding large trucks accessing outback roads. The Director tabled a media release and referred to the RAVnet website which is an interactive map system that displays approved heavy vehicle route networks in South Australia. This matter can now be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.9 2017-18 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. Agenda item 9, Meeting No. 70)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that this matter has been included in the meeting agenda, item 9 and can therefore be removed from the Action List.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

5.1 Correspondence Register (Ref. N17 – 03/09), Meeting 70, 20 September 2017

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who referred to the September meeting where the draft correspondence register had been tabled. The members agreed that the register is a useful indicator confirming the volume of correspondence managed by the Office for the OCA.

The Members agreed by consensus to:

- Note the correspondence register, as tabled.
- Have the correspondence register included on the Member's page, OCA website, provided on a quarterly basis.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Dog and Cat Management Act Exemptions (Ref. N17-01/11)

The Chair referred discussion to the Governance Manager who advised that the OCA is captured the same as a local council in the Dog and Cat Management Act (Act) and unfortunately is unable to comply with certain provisions of the Act, such as appointing at least 1 full-time authorised person, the Governance Manager referred to Section 26 (1)(d) of the Act.

The Governance Manager confirmed that the Dog and Cat Management Board are able to exempt a person or body from the operation of a specified provision or provisions of the Act.

The Governance Manager advised that the following exemptions were sought from the Dog and Cat Management Board and have been granted, and are in place until 18 October 2019:

- Section 26 (1)(d) – Appoint at least 1 full time authorised person or make other satisfactory arrangements for the exercise of the functions and powers of dog management officers.
- Section 26A(2) – A plan of management must include provisions for parks where dogs may be exercised off-leash and for parks where dogs must be under effective control by means of physical restraint, and may include provisions for parks where dogs are prohibited.
- Section 26(1)(e) - make satisfactory arrangements for the detention of dogs seized under this Act.

The OCA noted the exemptions from the operation from the specified provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act granted by the Dog and Cat Management Board.

6.2 2017-18 Budget Monitoring Report – September 2017 (Ref. N17-02/11)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Budget Monitoring Report as at 30 September 2017. The Director advised the two owned

landcruisers have been auctioned through Pickles Auctions which will result in the OCA receiving approximately \$82,000 of new income. The Director confirmed that DPTI, on behalf of the OCA will seek expenditure authority for the new income which will assist the OCA meet outcomes in 2017-18.

The Members discussed the debt in relation to the Community Contribution Schemes operating in Andamooka and Iron Knob the debt associated with water use by landowners in the Copley community and the impact that these have on the OCA's budget.

The OCA noted the November 2017 Budget Monitoring Report.

7. LEIGH CREEK UPDATE

Leigh Creek Transition Update

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that the OCA has been tasked with an important assisting role transitioning the township of Leigh Creek and has done extremely well. The Director summarised activities that have been occurring in Leigh Creek during September and October, including:

- A consultation process that has commenced with local community groups to guide the direction of a Leigh Creek and Outback Workforce Development Plan by the Department of State Development and Regional Development Australia Far North.
- An independent Visitor Information Outlet and tourism strategy, managed by the Leigh Creek Community Progress Association.
- Arrangements for the hire of community facilities in Leigh Creek are now available.
- Developed an addendum to the Pool Facility Management Agreement, outlining topics such as pool access, pool opening times, etc.

The Director confirmed that the Expression of Interest regarding the caravan park at Leigh Creek closes next week, although the OCA is not involved in the process of assessing submissions.

The Director advised that the OCA had supported a Fun Day held recently in Leigh Creek and that good attendances were reported.

The OCA noted the continued work relating to the Leigh Creek transition and successes to date.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

8.1 Membership of the Local Government Association of South Australia

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled a tax invoice and invitation from the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA) for the OCA to renew its associate membership. The Director advised that the OCA is and also its predecessor, the Outback Areas Community Development Trust was an associated member of the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA). The Director advised that he had contacted the LGASA to discuss associate member

benefits and determined that the OCA currently has very limited contact with and use of LGASA services.

The Director acknowledged that past processes necessitated being an associate member of the LGASA, although this is no longer the case.

The Members considered the information after which the following motion was proposed.

**Moved by Member Ferguson
Seconded by Member Fennell**

That the Outback Communities Authority resolves to

- *Not renew its Associate Membership of the Local Government Association of South Australia; and*
- *Advises the Local Government Association of SA of this decision and copy to Minister Brock*

Carried.

9. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2017-18 Business Plan Action Plan. The Director reported that the oneOutback Prospectus was launched in early November which will be followed by a targeted engagement with key policy and decision makers on the OCA's Strategic Priorities.

The Director confirmed that reports relating to the Strzelecki Track Upgrade and the Transshipping Facilities in Port Augusta have been commissioned and it is hoped that they will be provided at the OCA's December meeting. These projects are in partnership with Regional Development Australia Far North.

The Members noted the Business plan action plan

10. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair thanked the Director, Governance Manager and Office for the OCA for managing OCA business whilst she was absent due to ill health.

The Chair confirmed that she recently attended a Leigh Creek Futures meeting in Adelaide and also the Barndioota low to medium Radioactive Waste Management Facility meeting where a Telstra feasibility report was tabled which includes a solution for the outback. The Chair confirmed that the identified funding zone has been expanded. The Chair advised that it is envisaged that the report will be released at the next meeting. The Chair also advised that the next meeting of the Waste Management Facility will include discussion regarding the newly released community benefit scheme.

The Chair confirmed that the nomination process for new OCA Members is in progress and that the Minister is conscious that four Member's terms are due to expire as at 31 December 2017. The Chair advised that she is confident that the positions will be clarified before the end of the year.

The Chair congratulated the Director who presented a Key Note Speech at the Australian Rangeland Society Conference held in Port Augusta late in September.

11. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Ferguson advised that she had attended the Australian Rangeland Society Conference in Port Augusta, under OCA sponsorship. Member Ferguson also congratulated the Director on the Key Note Speech that he delivered.

Member Ferguson advised that she attended the Leigh Creek Family Day held recently which was quite successful with a lot of agencies present on the day providing a very good opportunity for local people to connect with service providers. Member Ferguson confirmed that there was very good attendance on the day and keen interest for a follow up event in the future.

12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 There are no Section 11 Committees operating, therefore no matters to consider.

13. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled his report and advised that he returned to normal duties as of 3 October.

The Director confirmed that since the November meeting agenda was finalised, he had attended a further four meetings, meeting with Solar Reserve in Adelaide, the Altura group, Reach Solar and OZ Minerals which are all involved in exciting projects benefiting the region.

The Director confirmed that Leigh Creek continues to take the focus with particular emphasis regarding the preparation of advice on the future management of the township with much of the advice remaining confidential and the subject of Cabinet confidentiality.

The Director summarised his activities, including:

- travelling to Leigh Creek, Lyndhurst, Copley and Blinman
- meeting with the Leigh Creek Community Progress Association and Lyndhurst and District Progress Association and undertaking facilities inspections
- meeting with the waste contractor for Leigh Creek
- presenting a Key-Note Speech on the transition of Leigh Creek at the Australian Rangelands Conference on 27 September.
- meeting with the Leigh Creek Futures group and attending the Mayoral Reception for the SEGRA Conference held recently in Port Augusta.

The Director tabled an extensive list of operational activities that have occurred since the OCA's September meeting.

The Manager, Office of Local Government thanked the Director for the time he spent in Adelaide acting as the Manager for Local Government while she was on leave and also the OCA Board for releasing the Director to accept the opportunity.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

There were no Confidential Orders discussed.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Discussion occurred relating to the date of the next meeting to be held in Adelaide in December. The Members agreed for further investigation to be undertaken to see if it would be possible to have the meeting held on 13 December. The December meeting date will be confirmed as soon as possible.

The meeting closed at 1.35 pm.