

## LARAMBA LOCAL BOARD MEETING 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013

Present: Ronnie McNamara, Ron Hagan, Jamesie Stafford, Debbie Williams, Peter Stafford, Amy Stafford, Adrian Dixon, Stephen Maney.

Absent: Caesar Tilmouth, Billy Briscoe.

Visitors: Glenn Marshal, John Gaynor, Kimbi Bevan, Dept Local Gvt-Bruce Fyfe, Aged Care coordinator Liz Waltrich.

As an introduction each of the visitors explained their positions/roles.

Minutes of previous meeting: Read by Irene Floyd

Passed: Peter Stafford

Seconded: Amy Stafford

Business Arising from Minutes:

- Clinic Manager Sue unable to attend the meeting due to her being interstate.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Indigenous Engagement Officer-unable to attend.

- Kenny is based in Yulemu. His position is not equivalent to GEC-he is to keep an eye on all work that is commonwealth funded. Kenny reports to Joan Purcell who is the Government Engagement Coordinator, based in Yuendumu. He is not responsible for Housing.

Housing

- Stephen concerned that community complains that nothing happens to housing repairs and people are frustrated.
- John Gaynor explained that Government Housing is not a Local Government / Central Desert Shire role....any repairs need to be authorised by Territory Housing.
- Stephen Maney put forward that an Indigenous person could be utilised to educate the community residents of what can be done.
- J. Gaynor explained the process.
- The issue was raised that some houses were without hot water during the past six months. *Action:* Names of these residents to be reported.
- Questions raised regarding where and what rent is used for, also it was noted that Territory Housing is very slow on processing requests. *Action:* Bruce Fyfe will forward these requests to Territory Housing.
- The Local Board makes a recommendation that Central Desert Shire talk with Territory Housing about funding a position with a local person in it...The person to talk to is Christine Hart of Territory Housing.

Power & Water

- Chairperson asked who after the ESO Roy Chisholm can be contacted in times of urgency. *Action:* Glen Marshall advised that Power and Water can be contacted.

Request of Directors

- The Local Board asked what the Directors can do for Communities. Directors present gave a breakdown of their roles and responsibilities.

Staff meetings

- Can be attended by Council President and Local Board Chairperson.

Dog Issues – Glenn Marshall spoke of:

- A dog management plan for each community-Karen Lightower leading this.
- Keeping dogs healthy
- Making the community safe
- Veterinary visits will continue every 6 months, working with the field officers.
- Bylaws discussed how CDSC can work with Local Boards to create a plan to work with dogs only.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- Liz Waltrich put forward a proposition to do a petition with community signatures for Housing issues. Local Board in agreement with this proposition.
- Kimbi Bevan spoke of the Local Board Calendar – that it will stay as is unless advised of a change-also time will remain the same.
- Stephen suggested collecting cans and bottles to gain the deposit money. Can a system be created for this? Ronnie McNamara advised it would most likely remain the same.
- CR Adrian Dixon tabled the report from Central Desert Shire Council.
- Cr Dixon asked Kimbi to speak with CDSC to lobby the NT Police for a permanent presence in Yulemu and Laramba.
- Tourism Plan-any comments to be passed to Kimbi via SSM.
- Sports Policy Review to be undertaken. Kimbi expanded on this.
- John Gaynor advised that CDSC will support carnivals/sports weekends only when during holidays and long weekends. CDSC supports student attendance and are quite concerned over the lack of attendance in schools.
- CDSC will not support Community sports events financially. *Action:* John Gaynor's team will review the Sports Policy to make it stronger.
- More discussion held around this issue highlighting the need for communities to talk with shire.

## School Attendance

- This has become a problem with many students not attending school.
- Secondary Program is likely to close at Laramba due to poor numbers. If so, there will be no secondary Schooling at Laramba for the future.
- The School to hold a community meeting with BBQ next Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov to discuss this.

## Central Desert Council Changes

- Bruce Fyfe explained changes to Shire councils. Central Desert Shire will become Central Desert Regional council.
- The Local Government Act requires Regional councils to have a Local Authority in community.
- The legislation will change in November.
  - Council must get a report
  - A budget report showing how much money is spent.
  - A proper meeting and agenda are required.
  - Local Authority must be given minutes of the council meeting
  - Regional council must show budget and expenditure eg Local Authority = Laramba.
  - Local Authority will know much money is in budget
  - Local Board to assist in development of budget
  - New structure to begin in July 2014

Sitting Fees:

- For councillors unless employed by the Central Desert Shire \$114.00 per person.

What this community needs for its future:

- Strategic and Operational Planning.
- Matrix for core Services which exist on the website.
- Glen showed Core Services Priorities which are great.

Meeting closed at 5.30pm.