

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

18 June 2020

Meeting No. 93

Members:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member)

J Fort, F Frahn, M Marsland, C Michelmore, T Roach, L Warrington

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Standpipe Gold Motor Inn, Port Augusta

18 June at 8.50 am

Present:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member), J Fort, F Frahn,  
M Marsland, C Michelmore, T Roach and L Warmington (OCA Members)  
M Sutton (Director, OCA), B Gough (Governance Manager, OCA – late arrival)  
and J Greatbatch (Business Support Officer, OCA).

### 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Presiding Member welcomed everyone to meeting 93 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) being the first meeting that Members have attended since COVID-19 restrictions were put in place.

### 2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

2.1 The Presiding Member confirmed representatives from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association will join later in the meeting and provide a deputation. (Refer to agenda item 10).

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Member Fort declared an interest in agenda item 6.3 being Chair of the regional tourism organisation Flinders Ranges and Outback.

### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2020 were circulated.

Moved by Member Marsland  
Seconded by Member Michelmore

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 29 April 2020, meeting number 91 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.*

Carried.

4.2 The minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2020 were circulated.

Moved by Member Michelmore

Seconded by Member Fort

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 28 May 2020, meeting number 92 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.*

Carried.

#### 4.3 Business arising from minutes.

##### 4.3.1 Risk Management – Strategic Management Planning (Ref. agenda item 6.6, Meeting No.87)

The Director confirmed that this matter is in abeyance and will be dealt with through the Outback Futures project.

##### 4.3.2 Lake Eyre – Analysis of the Impacts and Opportunities an Event has on the Region (Ref. agenda item 6.1, Meeting No.88)

The Director advised that the contract for service for the Lake Eyre – Analysis of Impacts and Opportunities an Event has on the Region has been signed and returned by Regional Development Australia Far North. This matter to be removed from the action list.

##### 4.3.3 April Meeting Location (Ref. agenda item 15, Meeting No. 90)

The Director referred to the deputation later in the agenda from representatives from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA). This matter to be removed from the action list.

##### 4.3.4 OCA 2020-2025 Strategic Management Plan; 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget (Ref. agenda item 7.1, Meeting No.90)

The Director confirmed that the 2020-2025 Strategic Management Plan was provided to the Minister on 30 April and the draft 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget was provided to the Minister on 30 May. Responses regarding both documents are expected to be received soon. This matter to be removed from the action list.

##### 4.3.5 2020-21 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreements – Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA) and Iron Knob Progress Association (IKPA) (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No 90)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who confirmed that consultation on CARM agreements with the APOMA and IKPA were finalised on 9 June 2020, noting that one submission was received regarding the Andamooka 2020-21 CARM agreement while no submissions have been received regarding the Iron Knob 2020-21 CARM agreement. The Director referred to agenda items 6.4 and 6.5 and also the deputation from APOMA scheduled for later in the meeting. This item to be removed from the action list.

4.3.6 Dog Registration Fees (Ref. agenda item 6.4, Meeting No.91)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who confirmed dog registration fees set for 2020-21 have been confirmed with the Dog and Cat Management Board. This matter to be removed from the action list.

4.3.7 Finance Report (Ref. agenda item 6.5, Meeting No.91)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who confirmed the updated finance report as at 31 March 2020 was provided to the Presiding Member and OCA Members on 5 May. This matter to be removed from the action list.

4.3.8 OCA Accommodation (Ref. agenda item 7.1, Meeting No.91)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who advised that correspondence was forwarded to the Chief Executive, DPTI on 12 May regarding the impact to the OCA regarding the move to alternative accommodation and a response has been received with some amendments being made to the lease. A revised relocation date has been tentatively identified for late August 2020 and is subject to ICT requirements being finalised. This matter remains on the action list.

4.3.9 Food Security Concerns, Leigh Creek (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No.91)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who advised that concerns raised by Member Roach regarding food security at Leigh Creek have been raised with the Leigh Creek Task Force who are addressing this issue. This matter to be removed from the action list.

4.3.10 Director's Report (Ref. agenda item 11, Meeting No.91)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that he had passed on sentiments discussed at the April meeting regarding the support shown by staff during COVID-19 restrictions. This matter to be removed from the action list.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Outback Futures Project (Ref. N20-01/06)

The Presiding Member confirmed the Outback Futures Committee has had its first meeting which was held on 10 June 2020 and is currently working on the Outback Futures discussion paper. Delays due to COVID-19 restrictions have caused some amendments being required to both the terms of reference and to the timeline.

The Board noted that the amended timeline is very tight and may be restrictive to the consultation capacity and therefore it is important to start promoting discussions in the Outback Community as soon as possible. A special edition of the oneOutback publication has been identified as a good way to address this and to start communities thinking and talking about the future of the Outback.

Moved by Member Marsland  
Seconded by Member Roach

*That the OCA*

- *Note the Outback Futures project update.*
- *Approves the amended section 11 Outback Futures Committee terms of reference with key date changes.*

Carried.

## 6.2 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program (Ref. N20-02/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who advised that on 22 May the Australian Government announced a \$500 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program to support local Councils to deliver priority road and community infrastructure projects.

The Director confirmed that allocations through this program were calculated in a similar way to the Roads Recovery Program and the road component of the Finance Assistance Grants. The OCA does not receive an allocation through either of these processes, therefore was not considered for this program, however DPTI was allocated \$4,480,435 from the LRCI Program.

The Director added that following inquiries, confirmation was received from the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC) that clarified the intent of the program was to equally contribute to both local roads and community infrastructure projects. DPTI agrees with this principle and has invited the OCA to identify and submit community infrastructure projects to the program.

The Board approved the following projects to be submitted for formal funding approval:

- Andamooka Youth and Community Facility Development
- Beltana Community Infrastructure Project
- Blinman Sports Club and CFS Shed Project
- Blinman Mine Fencing Upgrade Project
- Copley Playground Park Shelter Project
- Copley Community Hall upgrade Project
- Innamincka Town Centre Project
- Iron Knob Solar Panel Project
- Kingoonya Race Club Infrastructure Project
- Kingoonya Community Park Project
- Marree Sports Club Facilities Project

- Parachilna Community Campground Project
- Penong Museum Relocation Project
- Pimba Community Campground Project
- William Creek Race Club Playground Project
- Oodnadatta CWMS Upgrade Project
- Oodnadatta Public Toilet Development
- Flinders Walking Trail Project

Moved by Member Michelmore  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*That the OCA:*

- *Acknowledges the partnership with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure in the opportunity to deliver projects for the betterment of the Outback Community.*
- *Notes the briefing on the Australian Government's recently announced \$500 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program;*
- *Approves for submission the list of projects for formal funding approval.*

Carried.

6.3 Flinders Ranges and Outback – Tread Lightly Proposal (Ref. N20-03/06)

The Chair referred to a request received from Flinders Ranges and Outback (FRO) for a project partnership to implement the Tread Lightly marketing campaign across the region.

The Director referred to November 2014 when the OCA approved the Tread Lightly campaign, however due to conflicting resource priorities the project has not been fully implemented.

The Director referred to the 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget which includes an allocation of \$30,000 to develop an Economic Recovery Plan supporting the reinvigoration of the visitor economy that has been severely affected by the extended drought conditions and COVID-19 restrictions.

The Director confirmed that FRO have submitted a proposal to roll out the Tread Lightly campaign that will support the reinvigoration whilst introducing a culture of 'leaving no trace', minimizing negative impacts of tourism on the region. The proposal from FRO details developing the print and digital collateral needed for promotion and along with investing in a strong digital marketing campaign.

Moved by Member Roach  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*That the OCA resolves to partner with Flinders Ranges (and) Outback regional tourism organisation to implement the 'Tread Lightly' marketing initiative across the region.*

It is noted that Member Fort (who is Chair of FRO) abstained from voting.

Carried.

6.4 Declaration of Community Contribution - Andamooka 2020-21 (Ref. N20-04/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that since 2012 the OCA has levied a community contribution in Andamooka as a fair and equitable way of sharing the cost of improved local services.

The Director advised that as in previous years, the 2020-21 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management) CARM agreement including a community contribution has been consulted on, consultation closing on 9 June. The Director advised that as a result of the consultation, one submission has been received.

The Director advised that although APOMA have agreed in principle to enter into a CARM agreement for 2020-21, before finalising this decision, community sentiment will be considered. In the event that the CARM agreement is not entered into, a further report will be provided to the OCA.

The Director advised that the 2020-21 community contribution is similar to the previous year's levy, being \$400.00 per property unit on rateable land in Andamooka.

Moved by Member Roach  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*That the OCA:*

- *Seeks formal confirmation from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association that it intends to enter into a CARM agreement for 2020-21.*
- *Subject to that confirmation, seeks the approval of the Minister for a fixed charge of \$400.00 per annum per property unit for community contributions in Andamooka.*
- *Subject to the Minister consenting to the fixed charge for Andamooka, execute the 2020-21 CARM agreement with Andamooka and.*

*On execution of the 2020-21 CARM agreement declares:*

*A community contribution for the land over:*

- *The township of Andamooka, and*
- *Those sites immediately adjacent the town of Andamooka not within the Andamooka Precious Stones Field or excluded from the operations of the Opal Mining Act 1995 held in Fee Simple, occupied under Crown Lease or Crown Licence, and*
- *Those portions of Section 1500 Out of Hundreds (Andamooka) occupied under Crown Licence (known as White Dam).*

*Fixes a charge of \$400.00 per property unit on rateable land for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services and support to the community of Andamooka:*

*Pursuant to Section 181 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the community contribution be payable in four equal or approximately equal instalments as follows:*

- *first instalment payable in September 2020;*
- *second instalment payable in December 2020;*
- *third instalment payable in March 2021; and*
- *fourth instalment payable in June 2021*

Carried.

6.5 Declaration of a Community Contribution – Iron Knob (Ref. N20-05/06)

The Director advised that the OCA has levied a community contribution in Iron Knob since 2013 for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services to support the Iron Knob community.

The Director advised that the Iron Knob Progress Association (IKPA) on behalf of the Iron Knob community have requested that a community contribution continue in 2020-21. Consultation on the 2020-21 CARM Agreement including a community contribution was finalised on 9 June, noting no submissions have been received.

The Director added that the 2020-21 community contribution will be similar to previous years; \$240.00 per property unit on rateable land in Iron Knob.

The Board discussed the OCA exploring the possibility of indexing community contributions for communities that wish to increase their contribution in future years, noting Community Contribution Scheme (CCS) amounts have not increased since they were first implemented.

Moved by Member Warmington  
Seconded by Member Michelmore

*That the OCA:*

- *Seeks the approval of the Minister to a fixed charge of \$240.00 per annum, per property unit for community contributions in Iron Knob.*
- *Subject to the Minister consenting to the fixed charge for Iron Knob execute the 2020-21 CARM agreement with the Iron Knob Progress Association; and.*

*On execution of the 2020-21 CARM agreement declares:*

*A community contribution for the rateable land over the township of Iron Knob;  
Fixes a charge of \$240.00 per property unit on rateable land for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services and support to the community of Iron Knob.*

*Pursuant to Section 181(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, the community contribution be payable in four equal or approximately equal instalments as follows:*

- *first instalment payable in September 2020;*
- *second instalment payable in December 2020;*
- *third instalment payable in March 2021; and*
- *fourth instalment payable in June 2021*

Carried.





## 6.6 Finance Report 31 May 2020

The Presiding Member referred to the Finance Report as at 31 May 2020 that has been prepared by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, noting that reference to the ASL is very much dependent on the Outback Futures consultation and cannot be preempted at this time.

The Board noted the Finance Report as at 31 May 2020 and requests that the report is updated to reflect the reality of the ASL implementation in future iterations.

## 7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

## 8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2019-20 Business Plan Action Plan. The Director summarised progress made on the Business Plan noting that some actions are reliant on the Outback Futures Project and remain ongoing at this time.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action Plan and asked that a 'report card' on how the OCA achieved against the action plan be developed for the next meeting.

## 9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Presiding Member tabled his report noting that as a result of the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, tourism accommodation providers have noticed there has been a significant increase in tourism activity. The Presiding Member summarised the activities he has been involved in including:

- meeting with the OCA Director to draft the discussion paper for the Outback Futures Committee.
- holding the first meeting of the OFC and being happy with how the committee is planning to move forward with the recommendation that the discussion paper addresses three aspects being sustainability, vision for the region and possible solutions.
- responding to the media release on SA Water upgrading potable water supplies for Oodnadatta, Marla, Marree, Yunta and Mannahill in the coming financial year, with other communities without potable water being addressed in future years.
- receiving a letter from the Premier of SA who is looking forward to receiving the OFC report. This was a response to the OCA's letter sent earlier in the year following the Premier's trip to the Outback for the drought forum.
- receiving a letter from Livestock SA as part of the consultation process for the 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget.

The OCA noted the Presiding Member's report.

## 10. DEPUTATION

The Presiding Member welcomed representatives from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA) who presented information outlining current progress and a proposed way forward for the Andamooka community.

On behalf of the Board, the Presiding Member thanked the APOMA representatives for their presentation.

B Gough joined the meeting.

## 11. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort advised that Flinders Ranges and Outback have been successful in receiving funding through the BBRF Community Investments Stream Round 4 for a Rising Stars Leadership Program. This Program is a coaching and mentoring program directed at developing young local leaders and encouraging entrepreneurship for 4 participants.

Member Fort also advised that there has been strong regional visitation response to the Phase 2 COVID 19 restrictions to the Flinders Ranges region, although only a marginal response has been noted for Outback operators who do not expect recovery until later in 2021.

Member Fort confirmed that she participated in the Outback Loop operators cluster Zoom meeting, looking at collaborative marketing options to be actioned later this year.

Member Fort advised that DPTI is funding the initiative on signage while SATC has actioned the signage as part of the #welcomeback campaign which is essentially a state wide Branding exercise.

Member Frahn advised that there are still parts of the region impacted by drought conditions that missed out on the large rainfall received in other areas of the state earlier this year. Member Frahn reported that although Station Stay accommodation providers are seeing a tourism boom, which have a flow on effect to Outback Communities, tourists camping without permission remains an issue for pastoralists.

## 12. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director confirmed that the OOCA has been busy throughout the COVID-19 period with full service still being provided during this time. Staff are now resuming meeting face-to-face with the Outback Community as restrictions ease.

Some important milestones have been reached such as the extension granted for Drought Communities Programme Round 1 funding projects, while Round 2 projects have been submitted for approval. The Leigh Creek Task Force have finalised their recommendations, as have the Remote Communities Potable Water Supply Taskforce.

The Director met with the Outback Futures Committee with a view to prepare the Outback Futures discussion paper for OCA release in early July. While the Outback Futures Project Officer has not been finalised yet, it is expected this position will commence in early July.

The Director reported that his involvement as Chair of the Far North Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC) continues as part of the State Government's response to COVID-19, however daily meetings have become a watching brief with a formal debrief to occur at the end of the month.

The Director advised he has been working closely with RDA FN and FRO on new and improved visitor signage in the region, and work has been done with RDA FN to provide regular intelligence to both Australian and State Government Ministers on economic and community impacts and opportunities created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The third edition of oneOutback has been produced by the OOCA and continues to be well received by communities, especially from those who contributed.

The Director also provided an extensive list of activities that both Port Augusta and Leigh Creek OOCA staff have been involved in or worked on.

The OCA noted the Director's report.

### 13. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORT – OUTBACK FUTURES

Refer to agenda item 6.1.

### 14. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Director tabled the Correspondence Register for the period 23 April to 10 June 2020.

The OCA noted the Correspondence Register.

### 15. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

### 16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The OCA noted that the next scheduled meeting is a teleconference to be held on 2 July, while a formal meeting has been scheduled for 19, 20 August to be held in Port Augusta followed by 23, 24 September also in Port Augusta.

The meeting closed at 12:40 pm.

*W. W. W. W. W.* 19-8-20