AGENDA

BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

MONDAY, 18 JUNE 2018

Notice is given that the next Beswick Local Authority Meeting of the Roper Gulf Regional Council will be held on:

- Monday, 18 June 2018 at
- The Conference Room Council Service Delivery Centre, Beswick
- Commencing at 10:00am

Your attendance at the meeting will be appreciated.

PLEDGE

“We pledge to work as one towards a better future through effective use of all resources.

We have identified these key values and principles of Honesty, Equality, Accountability, Respect and Trust as being integral in the achievement of our vision, that the Roper Gulf Regional Council is Sustainable, Viable and Vibrant”.

PRAMIS BLA WI

“Mela pramis bla wek gudbalawei bla meigim futja bla wi wanwei, en bla yusim ola gudwan ting bla helpum wi luk lida.

Mela bin luk ol dijlod rul, ebrobodi gada tok trubalawei, wi gada meik so wi gibit firgo en lisin misalp, abum rispek en trastim misalp bla jinggabat bla luk lida, Roper Galf Rijinul Kaunsul deya maindim en kipbum bla wi pramis , dum wek brabli gudbalawei, en im laibliwan”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	PRESENT/STAFF/GUESTS	
2	MEETING OPENED	
3	WELCOME TO COUNTRY	
4	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	
5	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
5.1	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	4
6	CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS	
7	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST	
8	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES	
8.1	Action List	18
9	INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE	
	Nil	
10	OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE	
	Nil	
11	GENERAL BUSINESS	
11.1	2018 National NAIDOC Week	20
11.2	Elected Member Report	23
11.3	Council Financial Report - 3rd Quarter Expenditure Report	25
12	OTHER BUSINESS	
12.1	AFL Forum	32
13	CLOSE OF MEETING	

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER 5.1
TITLE Confirmation of Previous Minutes
REFERENCE **751969**
AUTHOR Rodwynne King, Senior Administration Support Officer

RECOMMENDATION

(a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Beswick Local Authority's Meetings held on Monday 12th March 2018 and Monday 23rd April 2018

BACKGROUND
Beswick Local Authority's previous meetings were held on Monday 12th March 2018 and 23rd April 2018.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT
<<Enter Text>>

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS
<<Enter Text>>

ATTACHMENTS:
1 Beswick Local Authority 2018-03-12 [742362].DOCX

MINUTES OF THE BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM COUNCIL SERVICE DELIVERY CENTRE, BESWICK ON MONDAY, 12 MARCH 2018 AT 11.55 AM

1. PRESENT/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

Councillor Selina Ashley
Councillor Wayne Runyu

1.2 Staff

Brenda Donges, Council and Community Services Coordinator
Rodwynne King, Senior Administration Support Office (minute taker)
Chantal Binding, LA Support Coordinator

1.3 LA Members

Kathleen Lane - Chairperson
Savonne Scrubby
Deanna Kennedy
Raelene Bulumburra – by Telephone

2. MEETING OPENED

Meeting opened at 11.55 am (After Training)

3. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Wayne Runyu welcomed everyone to country and the meeting.

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

61/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Deanna Kennedy)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority accept the apologies from Mayor Judy MacFarlane, Deputy Mayor Helen Lee and Local Authority Members Lorraine Bennett and Trephina Bush for the Beswick Local Authority Meeting held on 12th March 2018

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

62/2018 **RESOLVED (Deanna Kennedy/Raelene Bulumbara)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Provisional Beswick Local Authority's Meeting held on Monday 30th January 2017.

63/2018 **RESOLVED (Trephina Bush/Kathleen Lane)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Provisional Beswick Local Authority's Meeting held on Monday 8th May 2017.

64/2018 **RESOLVED (Raelene Bulumbara/Deanna Kennedy)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Provisional Beswick Local Authority's Meeting held on Monday 14th August 2017.

65/2018 **RESOLVED (Wayne Runyu/Savonne Scrubby)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Special Housing Local Authority's Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd October 2017.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Beswick Local Authority.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

DATE	Agenda Item	Item Description	Person Responsible Status	Comments/Completion Date
08.05.17	11.9 Picnic tables and path at new sub basket ball court's play equipment	CSC will put in a Project Proposal to RGRC Katherine for BBQ, seating and shelter, and pay to have a path installed	CSC Ongoing	07.07.17 Planning Stage Project form has been submitted to procurement. 19.02.18 Please see attached report for this (MAGIQ: 743306). **12.03.18 LA Members have agreed to use $15,000 of LA Funding to pay for this project and have given approval to commence.**

66/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the purchase and the installation of BBQ, seating, shelter and path at a cost of $15,000 from their LA funding.

14.08.17	8.4 Picnic table and chairs, for under the tree near Butterfly Creek Billabong.	Purchase of table and chairs to fit 8 people, constructed of aluminium.	AM/CSC Ongoing	06.11.17 See attached picture and prices for consideration. **12.03.18 LA Members have decided to purchase the Jumbo Park Seating and cement for installation. Approx. $2,500 (MAGIQ: 743306).**

67/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Savonne Scrubby)**

(a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the purchase and installation of a Jumbo Park Seating and cement for installation approx. $2,500 from their LA Funding for near the dam at Butterfly Creek.

7. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

8. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

9. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Selina Ashley has brought up the idea of creating a BMX Track near the Cemetery Gates, from Bertbert Street behind the cemetery, to Madigan Road. Brenda Donges explained that it will involve some excavation and getting gravel to create the jumps.

Action: Brenda will do a Project form and some preliminary costings.

Brenda Donges explained the work that will be commencing at the Madigan Park Basketball Courts. The fencing and landscaping will be undertaken over the next month or so.

Selena Ashley has requested that street signs be put up, as visitors to the community are having trouble finding houses and buildings.

Action: Brenda Donges will follow up on the purchase of replacement street signs.

Aged Care Facility needs their external lights checked as the area is too dark.

Action: RGRC has an electrician coming out soon and will get the lights checked.

The big tree in Victor Hood Memorial Park needs trimming, it is too big and is blocking out light.

Action: Municipal staff will look trimming the tree.

Chantal Binding informed the LA Members that there is 1 vacancy for a member and could they talk to people in the community and put forward any suitable nominations, including a youth member.

11. Project Funding Financial Report

MAGIQ: 743305

68/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Deanna Kennedy)**

a) That the Beswick Local Authority Receive and Note the Project Funding Report.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 12.20. pm.

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING 4 PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE Beswick Local Authority Meeting HELD ON Monday, 12 March 2018 AND CONFIRMED Monday, 23 April 2018.

Chairperson

MINUTES OF THE BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING (PROVISIONAL) OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM COUNCIL SERVICE DELIVERY CENTRE, BESWICK ON MONDAY, 23 APRIL 2018 AT 10:00AM

1. PRESENT/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members
Councillor Selina Ashley

1.2 LA Members
Deanna Kennedy
Raelene Bulumbura
Lorraine Bennett (Chair)
Kathleen Lane

1.3 Staff
Nathan McIvor - Area Manager Central Arnhem
Sharon Hillen - Director Council and Community Services
Alisha Sullivan - EA to Director Council and Community Services
Chantal Binding - LA Coordinator
Rodwynne King - Beswick Senior Administration Support Officer (minute taker)

1.4 Guests
Tom Girdler – NTG, Department of Housing and Community Development
Moira McCreesh – NTG, Harm Minimisation Unit, Department of Health

2. MEETING OPENED

Provisional Meeting opened at 10.35am

3. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Lorraine Bennett read the Pledge in Kriol after those present had recited the Pledge in English.

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

(a) That the Beswick Local Authority accept apologies from Mayor Judy McFarlane, Deputy Mayor Helen Lee, Councillor W Runyu and Beswick CSC Brenda Donges for the Beswick Local Authority Meeting held on 23rd April 2018

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) That the Beswick Local Authority approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the Beswick Local Authority's Meeting held on Monday 12th March 2018.

Minutes from 12th March 2018 could not be confirmed as this meeting was a Provisional Meeting only. Minutes will be held until the next Local Authority Meeting on 18th June.

6. CALL FOR OTHER BUSINESS

1. Update from Moira McCreesh, Principal Action Alcohol Officer, Harm Minimisation Unit, NT Government.

7. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Beswick Local Authority meeting.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION LIST

69/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Action List.**

Date	Agenda Item #	Item Description	Responsible Person	Status	Status Comments – Completion Date
08.05.17	11.5 Naming Parks in Beswick	1. Kathleen Lane is going to talk to Frankie Lane to see if there are any local names that the different areas are known by and can be used. 2. Signs to be drawn up.	Area Manager/ CSC	**Completed**	07.07.17 Report back at next LA Meeting. 14.08.17 Presented LA with List of names for Parks and a Community Sign Off Sheet. Signs need to be done. 31.10.17 Completed but signs need to be done. 19/02/17 Please see attached quote. **23/04/18 Ordered**
08.05.17	11.7 Location of Skate Park	Installation of a small skate park (quote obtained).CSC will submit a Project Proposal to Katherine RGRC for the Skate Park at Lot 55.	Area Manager/ CSC	**Completed**	07.07.17 Installation – Still in Planning Stage – Part of process is risk assessment. 27.07.17 Brenda has submitted a Project Form for this proposal. It will then go to Council. 31.10.17 Greg chasing up 06.11.17 Mayor to follow up on progress. 19.02.18 Please see attached quotes. 20.03.18 Seeking advice.

					23.04.18 Quotes received will commence construction.
08.05.17	11.8 Play Equipment for lot 55 park	Area Manager to present quotes for play equipment at the next meeting.	Area Manager	**Completed**	07.07.17 Planning Stage – Project form has been submitted – Procurement. 31.10.17 Purchase as tender through Central Arnhem & Roper. 19.01.18 Please see attached quote and ideas for Beswick. **23.04.18 Equipment ordered**
08.05.17	11.9 Picnic tables and path at new sub basket ball court's play equipment	CSC will put in a Project Proposal to RGRC Katherine for BBQ, seating and shelter, and pay to have a path installed	CSC	**Completed**	07.07.17 Planning Stage –Project Form has been Submitted – Procurement. 19.02.18 Please see the Report for this. 12.03.18 Approved by LA and have commenced purchasing of materials. 11.04.18 Shelter, BBQ table and seating have been ordered. **23.04.18 Being constructed**
14.08.17	8.3 Names for the 5 cemeteries/ Burial grounds. **(LA members advised approx. 9 cemeteries/ burial grounds**	Will need to consult with Community and Tos	CSC/SASO /LA	Ongoing	31.10.17 Have a name for main burial ground but not the others. 06.11.17 See attached map for Identifying locations and suggest names. **23.04.18 CSC & SASO will consult with family members to locate grave sites. (LA members advised approx. 9 different areas)**
14.08.17	8.4 Picnic table and chairs, for under the tree near Madigan Dam. (Not Butterfly Creek Billabong.)	Purchase of table and chairs to fit 8 people, constructed of aluminium.	Area Manager /CSC	**Completed**	06.11.17 See attached pictures & prices. 12.03.18 Has been approved by LA to purchase Jumbo Park Setting from Felton Industries for $1850.00. 11.04.18 Seating has been ordered. **23.04.18 LA have requested the Billabong be renamed Madigan Dam.**
14.08.17	11.7 Water tap at the Wugularr Cemetery.	1. Install water tap at Cemetery, running pipes from toilet block at Madigan Street. 2. Discuss the logistics of watering the cemetery with LA.	Area Manager/ CSC/ Sharon	**Completed**	31.10.17 Sharon Hillen advised there is no water for this to happen (only potable water). A bore is needed so that drinking water supply isn't used. Sharon to investigate. 08.12.17 Nathan to get a quote on bore. 20.03.18 Maintenance request. **23.04.18 There is a drinking tap at the Madigan Basketball Courts for water.**
14.08.17	11.7 Watering or a sprinkler system for oval during the dry season when river is dry.	1. Look at watering or a sprinkler system for oval. 2. Discuss with LA re; Obtaining funding for watering system during the dry.	Area Manager/ CSC Sharon	Ongoing	31.10.17 Sharon Hillen advised there is no water for this to happen (only potable water). A bore is needed so that drinking water supply isn't used. Sharon to investigate. 20.03.18 Dep. Of Resources to be

					contacted. **23.03.18 Sharon Hillen is still investigating options.**
14.08.17	11.8 GRANTS: ROUND 1 2017-18 ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM	Local Authority will apply for funds to buy/fix community BBQ trailer for Community use	SASO/ LA	**Completed**	15.08.17. Have applied for funding. 31.10.17 Approved funding at OCM 25.10.17 19.02.18 Trailer has new tires and is licensed. It is being used but some work still to be done. **23.04.18 Trailer is in use.**
12.03.18	10.1 BMX Track	Creating a BMX Track near the Cemetery Gates, from Bertbert Street behind the cemetery, to Madigan Road. Brenda Donges explained that it will involve some excavation and getting gravel to create the jumps.	CSC Brenda	Ongoing	12.03.18 Brenda will do a Project form and some preliminary costings.
12.03.18	10.2 Madigan Park Basketball Courts.	Madigan Park Basketball Courts – fencing and landscaping	CSC Brenda	**Completed**	12.03.18 The fencing and landscaping will be undertaken over the next month or so. 11.04.18 Basketball Court landscaping is well underway. Plants, paths and fence have been installed. **23.04.18 Fence and landscaping has been finished for Stage 1. Stage 2 on Bertbert Street will commence next financial year.**
12.03.18	10.3 Street Signs	Request that street signs be put up, as visitors to the community are having trouble finding houses and buildings. Brenda Donges will follow up on the purchase of replacement street signs	CSC Brenda	**Completed**	20.03.18 Jobs List 28.03.18 Nathan has the list of names and is ordering signs **23.04.18 Signs have been ordered, arriving next week and will install.**
12.03.18	10.4 Aged Care Facility – Lighting	Aged Care Facility needs their external lights checked as the area is too dark. RGRC has an electrician coming out soon and will get the lights checked.	CSC Brenda	**Completed**	20.03.18 Maintenance Request Submitted – Jobs List 10.04.18 Electrician has checked the lights and ordered parts to fix them. **23.04.18 Electrician has ordered parts to fix lights (On Work's List).**
12.03.18	10.5 Victor Hood Memorial Park	The big tree in Victor Hood Memorial Park needs trimming, it is too big and is blocking out light. Municipal staff will look at trimming the tree.	MUNS	Ongoing	20.03.18 Jobs List **23.04.18 On Work's Plan.**

Deanna Kennedy left the meeting, the time being 10.55am
Deanna Kennedy returned to the meeting, the time being 11.00am

9. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 DJILPIN ARTS BLANASI COLLECTION

CEO Michael Berto has been in discussions with Sam Bush-Blanasi regarding setting up a trust for the art works.
The LA Members suggested that Princess and Marcus Blanasi be included in the discussions, and to ensure that Fleur has informed the Committee and the workers at the Art Centre about these discussion.

72/2018 **RESOLVED (Raelene Bulumbara/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That Beswick Local Authority receive and note the correspondence regarding the Blanasi Collection.**

10. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 ELECTED MEMBER REPORT

73/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Elected Member Report.**

COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT (Late Report)

Beswick
Core Services
111 – Councils Services General
- Operating as required.

160 – Municipal Services
- Grass and weeds kept mowed and sprayed over the wet.
- MUNS preparing for the dry season and fire break creation
- Landscaping at Basketball courts commenced. Stage 1 complete. Stage 2 will include retaining wall, path and more landscaping on the northern side of the Court.
- Foundation for covered picnic area at playground (top sub) has been constructed.
- Picnic table for the Dam has also been ordered, to be installed mid year.
- All normal municipal services running as required.

Agency Services
350 – Centrelink
- Serviced as per contract – permanent position

348 – Indigenous Broadcasting
- Serviced as per contract

404 – Indigenous Sport and Recreation
- Activities are occurring regularly, tennis hot shots program training occurred for the

workers.

407 – Remote Sport and Recreation

- Nil to report.

74/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Council Services Report for the 23 April 2018 meeting.**

Deanna Kennedy left the meeting, the time being 11.26am
Deanna Kennedy returned to the meeting, the time being 11.28am

11.2 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT – BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY THIRD QUARTER REPORT

75/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Financial Report for the Third Quarter of 2017-18.**

11.3 GOVERNANCE REPORT – NEW POLICIES

76/2018 **RESOLVED (Raelene Bulumbara/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receives the following new policies:**
- **(i) GOV027 Indigenous Procurement Policy;**
- **(ii) GOV028 Buy Local Policy;**
- **(iii) GOV029 Records Management Policy;**

(b) **That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the following new and revised policies as adopted by Council at the 15 December 2017 meeting.**
- **(i) WS009 Fatigue Management Policy;**
- **(ii) HR029 Redeployment and Redundancy Policy;**
- **(iii) GOV012 Organisational Delegations Manual (non-financial);**
- **(iv) AGE038 AGED CARE Service Referral and Coordination Policy.**

11.4 GOVERNANCE REPORT – COMPLAINTS REGISTER

77/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Raelene Bulumbara)**

(a) **That Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Complaints Report.**

Sharon Hillen explained to the LA that there are forms in the Council Office that can be filled out for complaints and cheeky dog issues.

11.5 GOVERNANCE REPORT – BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING REPORT

The following was discussed and the Local Authority would like to allocate their LA Project Funding to the following:

- Signs for Parks $ 3500.00

- Contingency for Skate Park overrun	$ 5000.00
- Contributing to the purchase of a Can Crusher for all Communities	$ 3000.00
- Bollards	$10000.00
- Upgrade of Bus shelter to a larger Shade and Seating area.	$15000.00
- Donation to the local football team – Beswick Bears	$ 3000.00
- Purchase of Solar light for Skate Park	$ 8000.00
TOTAL	$47,500.00

78/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Selina Ashley)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the report on the Local Authority Project Funding.**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority approve to allocate at total of $47,500.00 from their Local Authority Project Funding for: Signs for Parks $ 3500.00, Contingency for Skate Park overrun $ 5000.00, Contributing to the purchase of a Can Crusher for all Communities $ 3000.00, Bollards $ 10000.00, Upgrade of The Bus shelter to a larger Shade and Seating area $15000.00 and Donation to the local football team – Beswick Bears$ 3000.00. Solar light for Skate Park - $8000.00.**

11.6 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT – COMMUNITY SAFETY

79/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Deanna Kennedy)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Community Safety Report**

11.7 COMMUNITY SERVICES – AGED CARE, DISABILITY, CRÈCHE

80/2018 **RESOLVED (Raelene Bulumbara/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note update on Community services**

11.8 LOCAL AUTHORITY NOMINATION AND RESIGNATION

81/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Selina Ashley)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority accept the nomination of Anne-Marie Ryan for the Beswick Local Authority.**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority accept the resignation of Savonne Scrubby from the Beswick Local Authority**

11.9 TOWN PRIORITIES 2018-2019

The Local Authority decided on option to hold Community consultation on the 5th June 2018, after the Community Safety Meeting. This will be followed by a BBQ Lunch.

82/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Raelene Bulumbara)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority plans to hold a Community Consultation Meeting to decide on the Town Priorities that are to be included in the 2018/2019 Regional Plan.**

ACTION: LA to hold a Community Consultation Meeting on June 5th 2018, to decide on the Town Priorities that are to be included in the 2018/2019 and to organise a BBQ to follow.

11.10 GRANTS: FUNDING FOR EXERCISE STATIONS IN THREE COMMUNITIES

Three pieces of equipment being installed.

83/2018 **RESOLVED (Selina Ashley/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the attached quote and presentation for the exercise equipment.**

ACTION: The CSC will sign the attached forms and forward to Imagination Play.

11.11 SURVEY FOR NIGHT PATROL

84/2018 **RESOLVED (Raelene Bulumbara/Kathleen Lane)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the request to fill in the attached survey.**

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 UPDATE FROM MOIRA MCCREESH - HARM MINIMISATION UNIT, NT GOVERNMENT

Moira provided an update and asked the Local Authority Members to consider what should be done with the Beswick (Wugularr) Alcohol Management Plan. The Traditional Owners did not accept the Plan in November 2016. Moira suggested 3 options for the plan –

- Apply for a Section 19 consultation about the WAMP by NLC to try and get TO approval.
- Drop the Plan altogether and disregard all the work that Community members had put into the WAMP since 2010.
- Look for a way to keep the draft WAMP as a reference document recording the opinions of the majority of community members about alcohol management.

The Local Authority chose the third option and directed Moira to Table the draft document at a Community Safety Meeting. They also agreed for Sharon Hillen to put a copy on the RGRC website to make sure it was available for consultation.

The Local Authority requested that mention of a “safer drinking area” and that the TOs said “no” to this be removed and to remove reference to the TOs in the footer.

Moira told the Local Authority that Senator Scullion was inviting people to contribute to a review of making it compulsory for Low Aromatic Fuel to be used instead of Unleaded Fuel. Submission close on the 18th May 2018.

Moira has gained funding for the Beswick Community, under the Alcohol and Drug Action

Initiatives Program for:

- Cooking To Support Change (women and girls)
- Resources to help the CEPO work with young people
- Strongbala Wumin Bush Camps
- Men's strong lifestyle workshops
- Strong Words, Better Ways (to improve out of date of faded signing with positive community messages)

There is currently funding available for a Women's Art Banner Making Workshop and Ladies Cooking evenings that has not been allocated, due to a lack of provider.

The blue and white Intervention sign at the entrance to Wugularr needs to be replaced/updated. Deanna Kennedy has art work and script for a new sign and Lorraine Bennet agreed to check the Kriol wording for accuracy. The original artist will be paid $500.00 for the artwork and Nathan McIvor will coordinate getting the signs done.

85/2018 **RESOLVED (Kathleen Lane/Raelene Bulumbara)**

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the update from Moira McCreesh, Harm Minimisation Unit.**

ACTION: Deanna Kennedy will send through sign design to Nathan McIvor.
ACTION: Nathan McIvor will coordinate with Moira McCreesh the making of the signs and payment from the funding she has obtained.
ACTION: Sharon Hillen will have the AMP put on the RGRC Website.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 1.00 pm.

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING 9 PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE Beswick Local Authority Meeting HELD ON Monday, 23 April 2018 AND CONFIRMED Monday, 18 June 2018.

Chairperson Lorraine Bennett

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER 8.1
TITLE Action List
REFERENCE **747467**
AUTHOR Rodwynne King, Senior Administration Support Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

(a) That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Action List

Date	Agenda Item #	Item Description	Responsible Person	Status	Status Comments – Completion Date
14.08.17	8.3 Names for the 5 cemeteries/ Burial grounds. **(LA members advised approx. 9 cemeteries/ burial grounds**	Will need to consult with Community and TOs	CSC/SASO /LA	Ongoing	31.10.17 Have a name for the main burial ground but not the others. 06.11.17 See attached map for Identifying locations and suggest names. **23.04.18 CSC & SASO will consult with family members to locate grave sites. (LA members advised approx. 9 different areas)**
14.08.17	11.7 Watering or a sprinkler system for oval during the dry season when river is dry.	1. Look at watering or a sprinkler system for oval. 2. Discuss with LA re; Obtaining funding for watering system during the dry.	Area Manager/ CSC Sharon	Ongoing	31.10.17 Sharon Hillen advised there is no water for this to happen (only potable water). A bore is needed so that drinking water supply isn't used. Sharon to investigate. 20.03.18 Dep. Of Resources to be contacted. **23.03.18 Sharon Hillen is still investigating options.**
12.03.18	10.1 BMX Track	Creating a BMX Track near the Cemetery Gates, from Bertbert Street behind the cemetery, to Madigan Road. Brenda Donges explained that it will involve some excavation and getting gravel to create the jumps.	CSC Brenda	Ongoing	12.03.18 Brenda will do a Project form and some preliminary costings.
12.03.18	10.5 Victor Hood Memorial Park	The big tree in Victor Hood Memorial Park needs trimming, it is too big and is blocking out light. Municipal staff will look at trimming the tree.	MUNS	Completed	20.03.18 Jobs List **23.04.18 On Work's Plan.** 15.05.18 Has been trimmed

23.04.18	Upgrade Bus shelter to a larger size. 6m x 6m	Order a new bus shelter.	CSC	Completed	23/04/18 LA has requested the bus shelter be upgraded to a larger size. **06.06.18 Shelter has been ordered.**
23.04.18	11.9 Town Priorities 2018-2019	LA to hold a Community Consultation Meeting on June 5th 2018, to decide on the Town Priorities that are to be included in the 2018/2019 Regional Plan with a BBQ to follow.	CSC/SASO/ LA	Ongoing	05/06/18 The Community safety Meeting has was not held this month so this opportunity for consultation was missed. Will try to talk to as many people as possible about their community priorities.
23.04.18	11.10 Grants: Funding for Exercise stations in 3 Communities	The CSC will sign the attached forms and forward to Imagination Play	CSC	Completed (Waiting for Delivery)	Equipment has been ordered and is being made.
23.04.18	12.1 Moira McCreesh - AHMU 1. What should be done with the AMP? 2. Replacing blue entry signs.	Nathan McIvor will manage this.	S Hillen/ DCCS/ N McIvor	1. Ongoing 2. 15.05.18 Completed 3. Ongoing	1. Sharon will have the AMP put on the RGRC Website. 2. Deanna Kennedy will send through sign design to Nathan 3. Nathan will coordinate with Moira re; making the signs and payment from funding she has obtained _____ 1. 2. 15.05.18 Deanna has sent through design to Nathan. Completed 3. 15.05.18 Nathan has been in contact with Moira and finance to work our payment for the artist and the company making the signs.

ATTACHMENTS:
There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.1
TITLE	2018 National NAIDOC Week
REFERENCE	**749491**
AUTHOR	Alisha Sullivan, Executive Assistant to Director of Council and Community Services

RECOMMENDATION

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority provides feedback on activities for 2018 National NAIDOC Week.**

BACKGROUND

This year's NAIDOC Week will be held nationally from Sunday 8 July and continue through to Sunday 15 July, 2018.

The theme for NAIDOC 2018 is *'Because of her, we can';* celebrating the invaluable contribution Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made, and continue to make, within our communities.

Whilst Council was unsuccessful in obtaining funding for NAIDOC 2018, it is important that we acknowledge women as pillars of our society.

Council request that the Local Authority provide feedback on community activities to commemorate women.

Council also request feedback on knowledge of other organisations undertaking activities to celebrate NAIDOC week.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

Please refer to the attachment for suggestions.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS:

1 Naidoc Week 8th to 15 July.docx

2018 National NAIDOC Theme: Because of her, we can!

NAIDOC Week 2018 will celebrate the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make - to our communities, our families, our rich history and to our nation.

Under the theme - *Because of her, we can!* - NAIDOC Week 2018 will be held nationally from Sunday 8 July and continue through to Sunday 15 July.

As pillars of our society, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have played – and continue to play - active and significant roles at the community, local, state and national levels.

As leaders, trailblazers, politicians, activists and social change advocates, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women fought and continue to fight, for justice, equal rights, our rights to country, for law and justice, access to education, employment and to maintain and celebrate our culture, language, music and art.

They continue to influence as doctors, lawyers, teachers, electricians, chefs, nurses, architects, rangers, emergency and defence personnel, writers, volunteers, chief executive officers, actors, singer songwriters, journalists, entrepreneurs, media personalities, board members, accountants, academics, sporting icons and Olympians, the list goes on.

They are our mothers, our elders, our grandmothers, our aunties, our sisters and our daughters.

Sadly, Indigenous women's role in our cultural, social and political survival has often been invisible, unsung or diminished.

For at least 65,000 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have carried our dreaming stories, songlines, languages and knowledge that have kept our culture strong and enriched us as the oldest continuing culture on the planet.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women were there at first contact.

They were there at the Torres Strait Pearlers strike in 1936, the Day of Mourning in 1938, the 1939 Cummeragunja Walk-Off, at the 1946 Pilbara pastoral workers' strike, the 1965 Freedom Rides, the Wave Hill walk off in 1966, on the front line of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in 1972 and at the drafting of the *Uluru Statement*.

They have marched, protested and spoken at demonstrations and national gatherings for the proper recognition of our rights and calling for national reform and justice.

Our women were heavily involved in the campaign for the 1967 Referendum and also put up their hands to represent their people at the establishment of national advocacy and representative bodies from the National Aboriginal Congress (NAC) to ATSIC to Land Councils and onto the National Congress for Australia's First Peoples.

They often did so while caring for our families, maintaining our homes and breaking down cultural and institutionalised barriers and gender stereotypes.

Our women did so because they demanded a better life, greater opportunities and - in many cases equal rights - for our children, our families and our people.

They were pioneering women like Barangaroo, Truganini, Gladys Elphick, Fannie Cochrane-Smith, Evelyn Scott, Pearl Gibbs, Oodgeroo Noonuccal, Celuia Mapo Salee, Thancoupie, Justine Saunders, Gladys Nicholls, Flo Kennedy, Essie Coffey, Isabel Coe, Emily Kame Kngwarreye, Eleanor Harding, Mum Shirl, Ellie Gaffney and Gladys Tybingoompa.

Today, they are trailblazers like Joyce Clague**,** Yalmay Yunupingu, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Nova Peris, Carol Martin, Elizabeth Morgan, Barbara Shaw, Rose Richards, Vonda Malone, Margaret Valadian, Lowitja O'Donoghue, June Oscar, Pat O'Shane, Pat Anderson Jill Milroy, Banduk Marika, Linda Burney and Rosalie Kunoth-Monks – to name but a few.

Their achievements, their voice, their unwavering passion give us strength and have empowered past generations and paved the way for generations to come.

Because of her, we can!

Celebrating NAIDOC Week

Listen

NAIDOC celebrations are held around Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The week is celebrated not just in the Indigenous communities but also in increasing numbers of government agencies, schools, local councils and workplaces.

Here are some ideas on how to celebrate NAIDOC Week:

- Display the National NAIDOC Poster or other Indigenous posters around your classroom or workplace.
- Start your own hall of fame featuring Indigenous role models.
- Listen to Indigenous musicians or watch a movie about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history.
- Make your own Indigenous trivia quiz.
- Study a famous Indigenous Australian.
- Research the traditional Indigenous owners of your area.
- Study Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and crafts.
- Create your own Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander art.
- Run an art competition for your school or community.
- Research Indigenous history online or visit you library to find books about Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples.
- Visit local Indigenous sites of significance or interest.
- Learn the meanings of local or national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander place names and words.
- Invite local Indigenous Elders to speak or give a Welcome to Country at your school or workplace.
- Invite an Indigenous sportsperson or artist to visit you.
- Invite Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander dancers to perform.
- Host a community BBQ or luncheon.
- Hold a flag raising ceremony.
- Organise a smoking ceremony.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 11.2
TITLE Elected Member Report
REFERENCE **750061**
AUTHOR Tessa Carnegie, Governance Officer

RECOMMENDATION

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the Elected Member Report**

BACKGROUND
This Elected Member Report is designed to give Local Authorities an overview of Agenda Items that have been raised and decisions made at the Ordinary Meetings of Council and Finance Committee Meetings since the last Local Authority Meeting, in order for them to convey the information to community members.

Comprehensive details can be found in the Agendas and Minutes if the respective meetings, which are available on the Council Website and at Council Offices.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT
At the Finance Committee Meeting held in Katherine on 28th March 2018:
Decisions include:

- approved the schedules for the following meetings: -
    - Ordinary Meetings of Council 2018
    - Finance Committee 2018
    - Audit Committee 2018
    - Local Authority 2018
- approved the attendance of Cr Turner, Cr Murrungun, Deputy Mayor Lee, and Cr Evan to the LGANT forum 12 – 13 April 2018.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Katherine 18th April 2018:
Decisions include:

- Never Never Ward Report – approved the recommendations of the Jilkminggan Local Authority for the minutes 3rd April 2018; approved the recommendations of the Mataranka Local Authority for the minutes 3rd April 2018.
- Numbulwar Numbirindi Ward Report – received and noted the Numbulwar Numbirindi Ward Report.
- Nyirranggulung Ward Report – approved the recommendations of the Beswick Local Authority for the minutes 12th March 2018; approved the recommendations of the Bulman Local Authority for the minutes 22nd February 2018; approved the recommendations of the Manyallaluk Local Authority for the minutes 21st February 2018.
- South West Gulf Ward Report – approved the recommendations of the Borroloola Local Authority for the minutes 5th April 2018.
- ACTION: Council to form a committee to facilitate roads projects advancement and to report to Council. The following members were nominated by Council:
    - Cr Turner
    - Deputy Mayor Lee
    - Cr Garner
    - Cr Nunggumajbarr
    - Cr A.Daylight

- Yugul Mangi Ward Report – approved the recommendations of the Ngukurr Local Authority for the minutes 14th February 2018; received and noted the minutes for Urapunga Community Meeting held 7th March 2018.
- approved the following Elected Members to attend the National Convention Centre, Canberra:
    - Mayor MacFarlane
    - Deputy Mayor Lee
    - Cr Turner
    - Cr Rory
    - Cr A.Daylight
    - Cr Runyu

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.3
TITLE	Council Financial Report - 3rd Quarter Expenditure Report
REFERENCE	**751618**
AUTHOR	Jasjit Rai, Finance Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority <<Type text…>>** receive and note the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the third Quarter of 2017-18
(b) That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the LA Project Expenditure Report as at 31 March 2018

BACKGROUND
<<Enter Text>> As per Guideline 8 of the Northern Territory Local Government Act, the quarterly finance report is to be presented to the Local Authority.

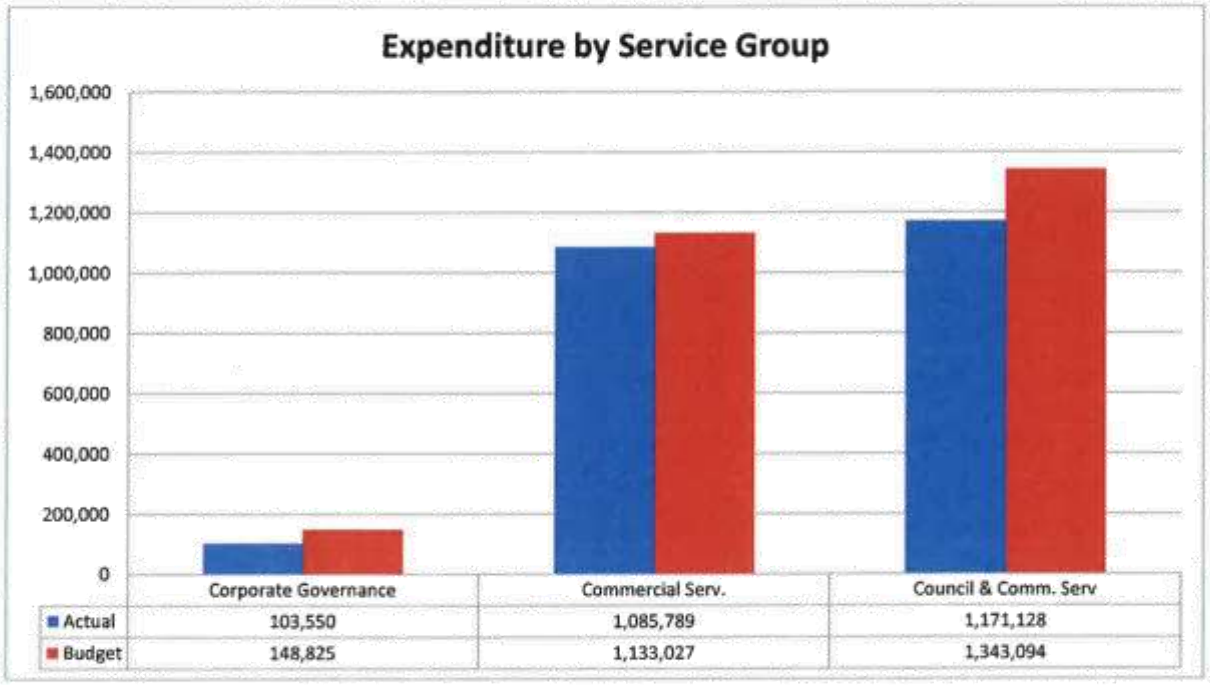
ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT
<<Enter Text>> Nil

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS
<<Enter Text>> Nil

ATTACHMENTS:
1 Beswick LA Report Third QTR.pdf
2 Beswick Local Authority Project Register 31.03.2018.pdf

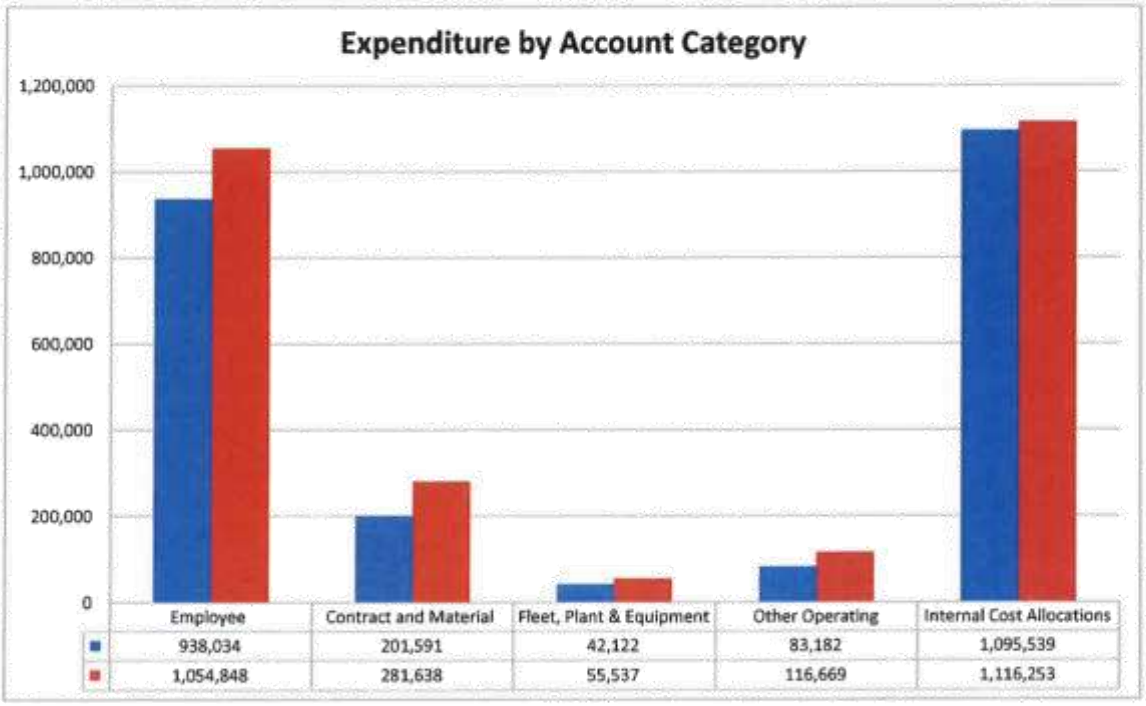
Roper Gulf Regional Council
Beswick
Expenditure Report as at 31st MARCH 2018

	Current Quarter		Year to Date - As of Period 11				
	3rd Quarter Actual	*3rd Quarter Budget*	YTD Actual	*YTD Budget*	*3rd Quarter Variance*	Annual *Budget*	Proporation of Budget *Spent*
Expenditure by Service							
Corporate Governance	103,550	148,825	129,111	181,897	45,275	198,433	70%
Commercial Serv.	1,085,789	1,133,027	1,263,639	1,384,810	47,237	1,510,702	96%
Council & Comm. Serv	1,171,128	1,343,094	1,460,586	1,641,559	171,966	1,790,792	87%
Total Expenditure	2,360,467	2,624,946	2,853,337	3,208,267	264,478	3,499,927	90%



Roper Gulf Regional Council
Beswick
Expenditure Report as at 31st MARCH 2018

	Current Quarter		Year to Date - As of Period 11				Proporation
	3rd Quarter Actual	*3rd Quarter Budget*	YTD Actual	YTD *Budget*	*3rd Quarter Variance*	Annual *Budget*	of Budget *Spent*
Expenditure by Account Category							
			Actual	Budget			
Employee	938,034	1,054,848	1,188,914	1,289,259	116,814	1,406,464	89%
Contract and Material	201,591	281,638	303,877	344,224	80,047	375,517	72%
Fleet, Plant & Equipment	42,122	55,537	60,165	67,879	13,416	74,050	76%
Other Operating	83,182	116,669	95,934	142,596	33,487	155,559	71%
Internal Cost Allocations	1,095,539	1,116,253	1,204,447	1,364,309	20,714	1,488,337	98%
Total Expenditure	2,360,467	2,624,946	2,853,337	3,208,267	264,478	3,499,927	90%



Roper Gulf Regional Council
Beswick
Expenditure Report as at 31st MARCH 2018

Activity Listing	Current Quarter 3rd Quarter Actual	3rd Quarter Budget	Year to Date - As of Period 11 YTD Actual	YTD Budget	3rd Quarter Variance	Annual Budget	Comments
Corporate Governance							
110 - Assets Managment - Fixed Assets	982	31,195	982	38,127	30,213	41,593	Underspend of $ $30,445 for rent expenses- Suppliers invoices received and in process.
131 - Council and Elected Members	0	38	50	46	38	50	
132 - Local Authority	3,212	3,876	3,900	4,737	664	5,168	Underspend for LA meeting allownce - LA Members lower meeting attendance.
133 - Local Elections	523	502	523	613	22	669	
138 - Local Authority Project	13,769	20,622	20,180	25,204	6,853	27,496	Underspend of $6,853 for Material and contract expense. Management is investigating the outstanding projects.
202 - Staff Housing	975	1,084	2,579	1,325	2,059	1,445	
245 - Visitor Accommodation and External Facil	84,089	93,677	100,897	114,494	9,588	124,903	Underspend is due to power and water invoices for quarter three received and paid in quarter four.
Sub Total	**103,550**	**148,825**	**129,111**	**181,897**	**45,275**	**198,433**	
Commercial Serv.							
220 - Territory Housing Repairs and Maintenan	81,228	87,330	98,193	106,736	6,102	116,439	
221 - Territory Housing Tenancy Management (	0	416	0	509	416	555	
246 - Commercial Australia Post	7,725	7,753	8,581	9,476	28	10,337	
314 - Service Fee - CDP	910,587	951,278	1,070,616	1,162,673	40,691	1,268,371	Underspend is due to vacant staff positions. Management is in process of recruiting new staff.
318 - Outcome Payments - CDP	86,250	86,250	86,250	105,417	0	115,000	
Sub Total	**1,085,789**	**1,133,027**	**1,263,639**	**1,384,810**	**47,237**	**1,510,702**	
Council & Comm. Serv							
111 - Council Services General	220,833	244,736	286,881	299,122	23,903	326,314	Underspend was due to less expense on material and contract - The invoices for the work carried out in previous months are received in April-May months.
160 - Municipal Services	317,527	322,484	388,794	394,147	4,957	429,978	
161 - Waste management	21,650	28,547	25,746	34,891	6,897	38,063	The expenses for compactor are miscoded to Borroloola. The expenses will be moved to this activity at the year end.
164 - Local Emergency Management	1,325	1,531	2,315	1,871	206	2,041	
169 - Civic Events	556	417	556	510	139	556	

Attachment 1

Beswick LA Report Third QTR.pdf

170 - Australia Day	448	336	448	410	112	448	
200 - Local roads maintenance	17,394	16,556	22,127	20,235	838	22,075	
201 - Street lighting	6,850	7,650	7,621	9,350	800	10,200	
341 - Commonwealth Aged Care Package	37,364	30,427	41,663	37,189	6,937	40,570	Overspent expense will be offset by surplus in activity 342.
342 - Indigenous Aged Care Employment	100,689	166,411	126,888	203,391	65,722	221,881	Underspends are due to staff absences. The coordinator had moved from Numbulwar to Beswick during the year but the cost is mistakenly charged to Numbulwar. The expense wil be coded to this activity at the end of financial year.
344 - Commonwealth Home Support Program	41,251	70,699	46,031	86,410	29,449	94,266	The underspends are due to Coordinator's vehicle was charged to Numbulwar. The expense wil be coded to this activity at the year end.
346 - Indigenous Broadcasting	28,323	31,698	36,806	38,742	3,375	42,264	
347 - Creche	108,131	106,471	137,569	130,131	1,660	141,961	
350 - Centrelink	38,210	43,679	49,240	53,386	5,469	58,239	The underspend is due to staff absences.
353 - Budget Based Funding	5,225	49,369	11,875	60,340	44,143	65,825	Project manager seeking approval to spend by the end of financial year.
355 - National Disability Insurance Scheme	305	446	423	546	142	595	
381 - Animal Control	708	586	708	716	123	781	
401 - Night Patrol	189,338	181,788	230,335	222,185	7,550	242,384	
404 - Indigenous Sports and Rec Program	34,364	37,909	42,862	46,334	3,546	50,546	
407 - Remote Sports and Recreation	164	225	274	275	61	300	
414 - Drug and Volatile Substances	216	300	980	367	84	400	
423 - SPG - Diversion Evenings	257	829	443	1,013	572	1,105	Underspend on material expense due to late invoice- Received and paid in April and May.
Sub Total	**1,171,128**	**1,343,094**	**1,460,586**	**1,641,559**	**171,966**	**1,790,792**	
Total Expenditure	**2,360,467**	**2,624,946**	**2,853,337**	**3,208,267**	**264,478**	**3,499,927**	

Attachment 1

Beswick LA Report Third QTR.pdf

Beswick Local Authority Project Funding - - as at 31.03.2018

Funding received from Department	Income
2014-15	$ 71,817.00
2015-16	$ 71,817.00
2016-17	$ 71,817.00
2017-18	$ 75,960.00
Total funding received	$ 291,411.00

Projects funding has been allocated to:	Prjct Budget	Tot Prjct Cost	Prjct Varience	Project Status
Lot 57 Toilet Block Upgrade	$ 13,000.00	$ 10,335.70	$ 2,664.30	Completed
Stage and Shelter at Lot 58	$ 9,715.24	$ 5,933.88	$ 3,781.36	Completed
2 x wood fired barbeques - 1 x at aged care and 1 x at Lot 58	$ 1,240.00	$ 1,959.93	-$ 719.93	Completed
Lot 58 Aluminium tables and chairs	$ 1,700.00	$ 1,545.00	$ 155.00	Completed
Footpath project	$ 10,000.00	$ 15,961.28		In Progress
Purchase and install bus stop & cracker dust	$ 2,750.00	$ 5,510.40	-$ 2,760.40	Completed
Basketball court area landscaping, parking & vehicle control	$ 37,000.00	$ 32,068.02		In Progress
AAPA clearance for heritage trail	$ 5,000.00	$ 4,920.58	$ 79.42	Completed
Repair slippery dip at basketball court	$ 2,410.00	$ 2,187.00	$ 223.00	Completed
Bollards on two road frontages of Lot 57 and park	$ 10,000.00	$ 9,342.79	$ 657.21	Completed
Drinking fountain at Lot 57	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,212.86	-$ 212.86	Completed
Solar light at cemetery	$ 6,000.00	$ 4,544.00		Materials Purchased, in progress
Installation of small skate park	$ 85,000.00			Project Approved; Quotes received, additional $5K allocated 23.04.18, work will commence soon.
Large portable shade structure for cemetery	$ 600.00	$ 543.64	$ 56.36	Gazebos purchased, Completed
Supply of playground equipment	$ 28,000.00	$ 299.00		Project Approved;In preliminary stages
Purchase & Installation of BBQ, seating, shelter and path at Madigan	$ 15,000.00			Purchase orders raised
Purchase the Jumbo Park Seating and cement for installation	$ 2,500.00	$ 2,030.00		Purchase orders raised
Signs for Parks	$ 3,500.00			
Purchase of can Crusher	$ 3,000.00			
Bollards	$ 10,000.00			
Upgrade of Bus Shelter to a larger Shade and Seating area	$ 15,000.00			
Donation to local football team - Beswick Bears	$ 3,000.00			
BMX Track	$ -			No funds are allocated by LA.
Total project budgets	$ 267,415.24	$ 100,394.08		

Funding that needs to be allocated to projects		
Total Funding Received		$ 291,411.00
Total project budgets	*Less*	$ 267,415.24
Project savings under 'Project Varience'	*Add*	$ 7,616.65
Project overspends under 'Project Varience'	*Less*	-$ 3,693.19
Total funding that needs to be allocated to projects		**$ 27,919.22**

OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 12.1
TITLE AFL Forum
REFERENCE **746403**
AUTHOR Rodwynne King, Senior Administration Support Officer

RECOMMENDATION

(a) **That the Beswick Local Authority receive and note the report on the AFL Champions Forum.**

BACKGROUND
The AFL Champions Forum was held on the 19th April 2018 by Roper Gulf Regional Council. CEO Michael Berto, Director Sharon Hillen and Sport and Recreation Coordinator Brody Bishop were among the attendees.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT
<<Enter Text>>

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS
<<Enter Text>>

ATTACHMENTS:
1 AFL Champions Forum. Media Release.pdf
2 AFL Forum.jpg

RoperGulf
REGIONAL COUNCIL
SUSTAINABLE • VIABLE • VIBRANT

ABN 94 746 956 090
29 Crawford Street Katherine NT 0850
PO Box 1321 Katherine NT 0851
Phone: (08) 8972 9000
Fax: (08) 8944 7003
www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au

MEDIA RELEASE

Reference: 1560

April 19, 2018

Community Support Critical for New AFL Competition

Plans to establish a new AFL competition in the remote Roper Gulf region are gaining momentum, following a successful AFL Champions Forum held in Katherine this week.

The forum was held in response to community requests for a new football competition outside Katherine, to help remote players access more games and promote a healthy living focus.

Council CEO Michael Berto says community leaders view football as an effective way to address men's health and anti-social behaviour, which is why they've campaigned so strongly for a new competition.

"People are concerned, particularly with young men on community," he said.

"They want to make things right for them, so they can give them every opportunity to live a good life into the future.

"Each community wants to start addressing their issues with the men around grog and violence, and that's as important to them as playing footy."

Hosted by Roper Gulf Regional Council, the forum brought together key stakeholders from AFL NT, Big Rivers Football League, Sunrise Health, the NT Government, 'No More' campaign and local AFL Champions.

The group raised a range of ideas to boost men's football participation, including weekly matches, monthly carnival-style football and partnerships with teams playing in the Big Rivers Football League.

The forum also highlighted significant challenges in developing a new competition in the vast and isolated region, including governance, funding and logistical arrangements.

Mr Berto says while those seeking a new competition need to be realistic about what can be achieved, he was confident a pilot program could be launched this year if communities were serious about supporting it.

"Its pretty clear to us that a grassroots competition like this will only succeed if the communities themselves put in the time and effort needed to make it work," he said.

"That means we need locals volunteering to coach teams, keep score, wash uniforms and all of the many other jobs that help keep a football team and competition running.

"If that doesn't happen then this won't succeed, because there are limited resources available to invest in this competition.

"That said, the commitment shown by those attending the forum was impressive and I think the level of interest is strong."

The group will meet again in the coming weeks to further develop the program, with each community to also be consulted.

Council would like to thank all those who attended, and the Department of Chief Minister for funding the event.

END

For further information, please contact Council on 0418 559 835 or at roper.governance@ropergulf.nt.gov.au.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

IMG 01 AFL Forum
CAPTION: *Attendees at the AFL Champions Forum in Katherine discuss development of a new men's football competition in the Roper Gulf region.*