

MEETING MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY 7 AUGUST 2018, HELD IN THE ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL, ANDY  
MCNEILL ROOM

**PRESENT**

Mayor Damien Ryan  
Councillor Auricht (Chair)  
Councillor Marli Banks (*arrived at 5:20pm*)  
Councillor Eli Melky  
Mr Rod Cramer - Rural Area Association  
Mr Sunil Dhanji - Landcare  
Mr Joshua Fischer - Assistant Director Operations, Bushfires NT  
(Proxy for Sarah Fairhead)  
Ms Caragh Heenan - Land for Wildlife  
Ms Tierneigh Parnell - Youth Member  
Mr Alex Read - Arid Lands Environment Centre

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr Rex Mooney - Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Scott Allen - Technical Services Director  
Mr Reinier Laan - Manager Regional Waste Facility  
Mrs Stephanie Dominguez - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

**VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms Rachel O'Leary  
Mr Gideon Singer

13 <sup>th</sup> Alice Springs Town Council Environment Advisory Committee Attendance List 2017/2018												
	Sept - 17	Oct - 17	Nov - 17	Dec - 17	Jan - 18	Feb - 18	Mar - 18	Apr - 18	May - 17	June - 18	July - 18	Aug - 18
Mayor Damien Ryan		✓		A		✓		✓		✓		✓
Councillor Glen Auricht		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Councillor Marli Banks		✓		✓		✓		A		✓		✓
Councillor Eli Melky		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Rod Cramer		✓		✓		✓		A		✓		✓
Sunil Dhanji		✓		A		✓ Proxy		A		A		✓
Sarah Fairhead		✓		✓		A		✓		A		✓ Proxy
Caragh Heenan		✓		A		A		A		✓		✓
Robbie Henderson		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		A
David Koch		✓		A		A		✓		✓		A
Judith Lovell		✓		A		✓		✓		A		--
Peter Somerville		A		✓		✓		✓		✓		A
Tierneigh Parnell	<i>Joined the Committee August 2018</i>											✓
Alex Read		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓ Proxy		✓

- ✓ Attended
- ✓ Proxy attended in place of committee member
- Proxy
- A Apology received
- No attendance and no apology recorded

The meeting opened at 4:30 pm.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Ms Sarah Fairhead - NTG Environment and Natural Resource  
Mr Robbie Henderson - Community Member  
Mr David Koch - Community Member  
Mr Peter Somerville - Manager Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

**2. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

All recommendations from the previous minutes have been endorsed by Council.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 4 JUNE 2018**

**RESOLVED:**

That it be a recommendation to Council:

**That the Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee meeting held 4 June 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.**

**Moved:** Councillor Melky      **Seconded:** Caragh Heenan      **CARRIED**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**5.1 Mayor Ryan – Repower**

Mayor Ryan enquired after the suggestion for Repower to make a formal presentation to Council, in respect of a partnership, and whether this deputation had been arranged. The Chief Executive Officer responded.

**Action:**

Officers to follow up with Repower in regard to a formal presentation to Council.

**6. DEPUTATION**

**6.1 Ms Rachel O’Leary, Science Engagement Officer  
Arid Lands Environment Centre - ‘Waste Audit Presentation’**

As part of Federal Government Funding through *Inspiring Australia* - Arid Lands Environment Centre (ALEC) undertook a waste audit of Todd Mall Market. This was performed in partnership Alice Springs Town Council and Charles Darwin University.

The waste audit was completed on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018, and was undertaken to:

- determine how much waste a typical event in Alice Springs generated
- to gather waste composition and quantity data from the event,
- and to present the results to policy makers to improve waste management

Ms Rachel O’Leary made a presentation to the committee showcasing the results obtained. Questions and answers followed with the committee.

**RESOLVED:**

That it be a recommendation to Council:

1. **That Council encourage the phasing out of single use plastics - cups, straws, cutlery and food containers - at all Council run events.**

**Moved:** Alex Read                      **Seconded:** Sunil Dhanji                      **CARRIED**

2. **That Council discourages the release of helium balloons in Alice Springs.**

**Moved:** Sunil Dhanji                      **Seconded:** Rod Kramer                      **CARRIED**

3. **That Council encourages the phasing out of single use plastic items including - straws, cups, bags, cutlery and food containers at all Markets.**

**Moved:** Councillor Melky                      **Seconded:** Rod Cramer                      **CARRIED**

**Action:**

The Director Technical Services to investigate Council permit conditions for markets and report back to this Committee.

**Action:**

Council Officers to contact Darwin City Council to investigate how it intends to implement its recommendations.

7. **LAND**

7.1 **Bushfire NT - Updates**

7.1.1 **Central Australia**

**Bushfire Risk**

- Mr Joshua Fischer reported seasonal assessments have been undertaken in the Central Australian region considering rainfall, forecast weather conditions, mitigation factors, fuel growth and a number of other factors. Bushfire NT has determined that the seasonal outlook for Central Australia is normal. Isolated areas with higher fuel growth, and no recent fire activity may see higher fire activity this season
- Significant work has been done by Central Land Council, Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife and Pastoral Stations to remove the broader bushfire risk for the Alice Springs surrounding area
- The Regional Bushfire Plan final draft is due to be approved and available for public review by September

7.1.2 **Alice Springs Municipality**

**Todd River working Group**

- The group is working on Fire Management Strategies and there has been significant improvement in the mitigation of grasses
- The Director Technical Services reported two additional Depot staff have been recruited to assist with litter control, fire management, and weed control within the Todd and Charles Rivers
- The Director Technical Services acknowledged the efforts of the Department of Corrections and Olive Pink Botanic Garden in reducing the grass in the Todd River Corridor

**Parks and Wildlife Northern Territory - Land Management**

- Vacant crown land allotments transitioning to Parks and Wildlife management
- Fire risk mitigation considerations for allotments adjoining privately owned land

**Action:**

Officers to invite Mr Christian Apple, Director for Southern Parks - NT Parks and Wildlife to present to Environment Advisory Committee

Discussion ensued in regard to fire prevention and weed management.

**Action:**

Council to write to Northern Territory Government Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics in regard to the high fuel load in the drains and fire management within municipal area.

## **7.2 Community Garden**

Mr Alex Read provided an update:

- 45 /48 plots have been taken up from June - December
- Leaks between the garden and Kurrajong Rd have been fixed, although possible water leak on adjacent old bubbler water line outside of garden being investigated
- School visit by Yirara students undertaken
- kitchen and accessible toilet are almost complete
- EcoFair 'Garden to Plate' event organised for Saturday 11 August 2018
- Councillors and Environment Advisory Committee to be invited to Spring Fair - date yet to be confirmed

## **7.3 Feral Cats**

The Director Technical Services advised there is nothing significant to report.

## **8. TRANSPORT**

The Director Technical Services advised there is nothing significant to report.

## **9. ENERGY**

### **9.1 Solar**

The Director Technical Services advised the Committee that the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre solar installation is complete, and is awaiting sign off.

## **10. WATER**

### **10.1 Alice Springs Water Allocation Plan**

No update available from the Water Advisory Committee.

Discussion ensued in regard to Parks Advisory Committee actions being taken to reduce water use within Alice Springs.

## **11. WASTE AND RECYCLING**

### **11.1 Regional Waste Management Facility - July Report**

The Manager Regional Waste Management Facility submitted a report to the committee:

#### **11.1.1 Recycling**

**Total Waste:** Total waste MINUS clean fill collected at the Regional Waste Management Facility (RWMF) for the July 2017 to June 2018 period was 34,579.89 tons (Table 1). The total waste collected over the same period for 2017 was 34,610.69 tons.

**Total Recycled:** Total recycled material for July 2016 to June 2017 period was 5,942.33 tons compared to 3,937.59 tons for the 2017/2018 financial period (Table 1).

**Percentage Recycled:** Total percentage of materials recycled between July (2016) and June (2017) was 17.17 % (Table 1). The percentage recycled material over the same period in 2017/2018 financial period is **11.39 %** (Table 1). The recycled total for 2017 was higher than 2018, due to crushed concrete being used in large road projects by Council (e.g. Ilparpa Road, Alice Springs).

**Table 1: Breakdown of items and recycled material through the weighbridge displayed as yearly accumulated data for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial periods.**

	June 2017		Jun-18	
	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT
Animal Carcass	6.22		10.06	
Asbestos	118.11		590.04	
Building Material		91.31		139.39
Cardboard & Paper	382.76	5.86	286.44	
Chemicals	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Clean Fill	12,892.23		12,780.14	
Concrete	2,635.51	4,131.91	2,598.71	1,065.58
Container Deposit (CDL)	4.06	4.06	10.82	10.82
Council Supported	15.86		73.46	
Demolition Materials	6,333.44		6,225.14	
Domestic Bins	7,474.40		7,346.98	
Drop off Zone* (Shop)		137.12		143.31
Electronic waste	44.36	33.76	49.02	37.66
Glass **	109.49	68.34	94.24	12.40
Green Waste	2,901.88	474.74	2,697.94	418.20
Household Goods		56.10		43.29
Liquid Waste	1,360.30		1,259.22	
Mattresses	62.34	33.66	71.64	61.11
Metals ***	741.92	221.05	829.31	1,285.28
Mixed Waste ****	11,796.27		11,737.52	
Timber & Pallets	615.12	676.12	685.03	716.41
Tyres	4.65	4.30	14.32	4.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,502.92</b>	<b>5,942.33</b>	<b>47,360.03</b>	<b>3,937.59</b>
<b>Total minus clean fill</b>	<b>34,610.69</b>		<b>34,579.89</b>	
<b>Percentage recycled</b>		<b>17.17%</b>		<b>11.39%</b>

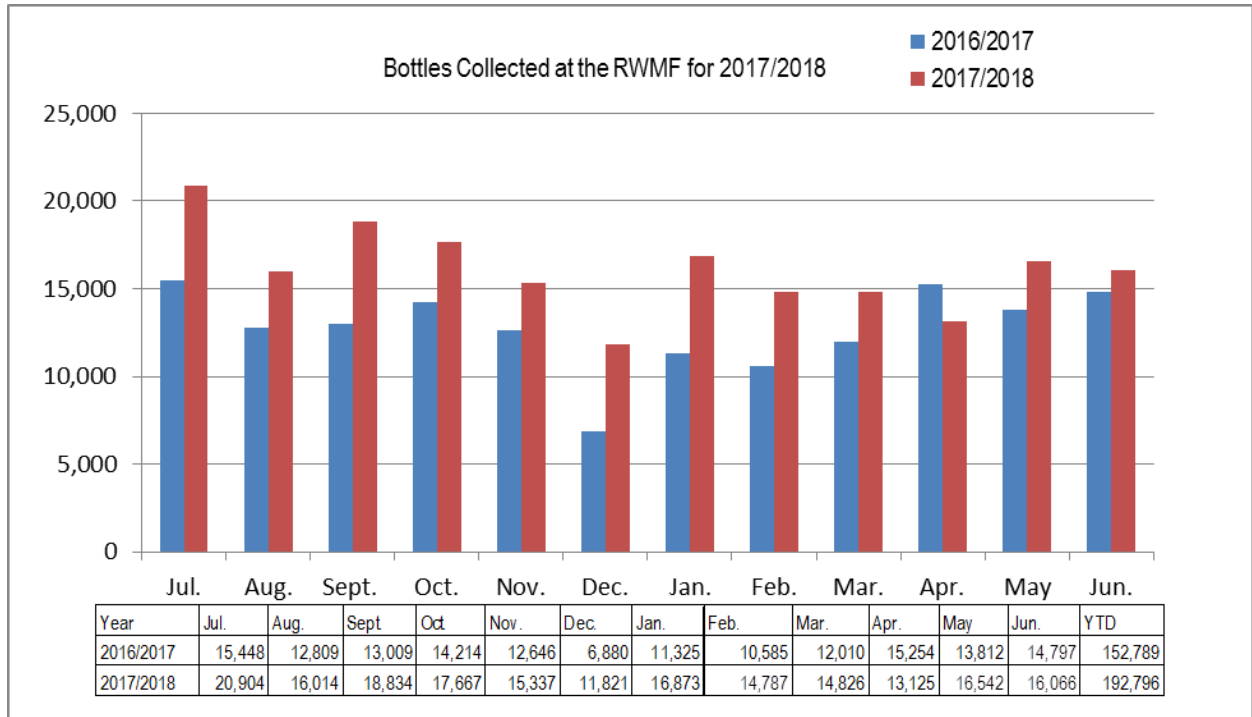
**Key:**

- \* Drop off Zone – Goods dropped off by the Public at the Rediscovery Shop
- \*\* Glass categories
- \*\*\* Metal categories - include other categories (e.g. whitegoods etc.)
- \*\*\*\* Mixed Waste - includes other categories (e.g. confidential burial; food surrender; transfer station, general waste; street clean

### 11.1.2 Cash for Containers

The total number of bottles collected between July 2017 and June 2018 at the Regional Waste Management Facility was 192,796.00 (Figure 1).

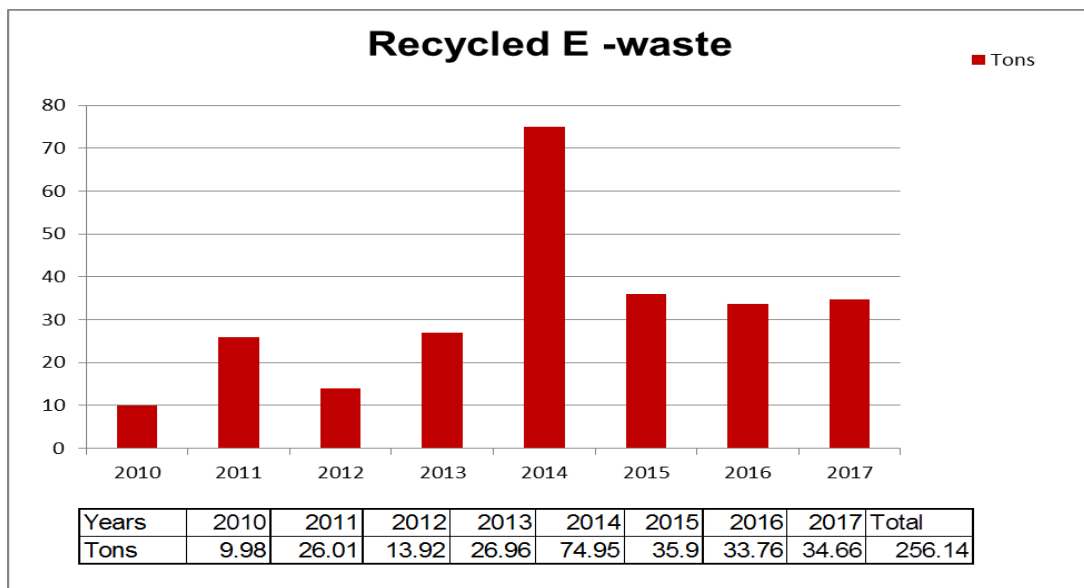
**Figure 1: Breakdown of the monthly wine and spirit bottles collected at the Regional Waste Management Facility**



### 11.1.3 E-waste

Free disposal of computers and televisions is available to the public on the first Saturday of each month through the National Television and Computer Stewardship Program. The next e-waste free drop off day will be on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

**Figure 2: Annual breakdown of the e-waste data at the RWMF**



## 11.2 Recycling Initiatives

### 11.2.1 Kerbside Recycling

- The Director Technical Services reported Kerbside Recycling has been deferred July 2019 for further review by Council deliberation to determine viability.

Discussion ensued in regard to Tennant Creek's progression with Kerbside Recycling.

#### **Action:**

Council to action correspondence to determine what avenues Tennant Creek are taking to make the Kerbside Recycling a viable undertaking.

### 11.2.2 Food Organics Garden Organics Study

- Elected members to meet 8 August 2018 to discuss.

## 12. **CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY**

The Director Technical Services reported a Climate Action Plan meeting scheduled for 8 and 15 August 2018. Further updates will be available at future meetings. A draft plan is being compiled for Council. It will then be available to the Committee and for public consultation.

## 13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

## 14. **OTHER BUSINESS**

### 14.1 Cities Power Partnership Pledge

The Director Technical Services reported on the 5 pledge items that Council has endorsed.

### 14.2 Significant Tree Register

Ms Caragh Heenan spoke on behalf of Land for Wildlife in regard to the launch of the *Significant Tree Register* online. The register is available online on the Land for Wildlife website:

<https://wildlife.lowecol.com.au/projects/significant-trees/>

Discussion ensued in regard to legal protections of trees and raising public awareness.

#### **Action:**

Caragh Heenan to approach Council in regard to promoting this register through the Alice Springs Town Council website.

### 14.3 Protecting our Unique Environment: 2018/2019 Environment Grants

Mr Joshua Fisher advised the Committee the Ms Eva Lawler, Minister for Environment and Natural Resources has announced this year's Environment Grants which may be avenues for funding a number of initiatives.

- Small Environment Project Grants - Closes 1 October 2018
- Environment Project Grants - Expression of Interest closes 3 September 2018.  
Applications close 29 October 2018
- Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure Grants - Closes 12 November 2018

<http://newsroom.nt.gov.au/mediaRelease/26925>

## 15. **NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5 November 2018 - 4:30pm in the Andy McNeill Room, Civic Centre - 93 Todd Street.

The meeting closed at 5.59pm