

Minutes

East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, 12 February 2026



**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
EAST POINT RESERVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM BIDJPIDJI (MEETING ROOM 1), LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE,
HARRY CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 4:30 PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor Mick Palmer
Museum and Art Gallery of the NT, Kirsten Abbott
Community Member, Lorraine Corowa
Friends of East Point, Helen Haritos
Community Member, Ulrike Kachel
NT Heritage Branch, Samantha Wells
Birdlife Top End, Anne Woollard
Fannie Bay Equestrian Club Inc, Anja Zimmermann

OFFICERS:

Executive Manager Environment and Waste Services, Nick Fewster
Coordinator Environment and Climate Change, Emma Smith
Environment Climate and Waste Support Officer, Libby Gleeson

APOLOGY:

Larrakia Nation, Victor Williams

NOT PRESENT

Crown Land Management, Wendy Pengelly
Researcher, John Rawsthorne
Darwin Triathlon Club, Gary Wall

Order of Business

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

2 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC001/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer
Seconded: Community Member Ulrike Kachel

The Chair declared the meeting open at 4:30 pm.

CARRIED 8/0

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC002/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer
Seconded: Community Member Ulrike Kachel

THAT an apology from Larrakia Nation, Victor Williams has been received.

CARRIED 8/0

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

3.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

4.1 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE GRANTED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC003/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Community Member Ulrike Kachel

THAT the Committee note pursuant to Section 95 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following member(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Fannie Bay Equestrian Club Inc, Anja Zimmermann
- Community Member, Lorraine Corowa
- Friends of East Point, Helen Haritos
- Museum and Art Gallery of the NT, Kirsten Abbott
- Birdlife Top End, Anne Woollard
- NT Heritage Branch, Samantha Wells

CARRIED 8/0

4.2 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

5.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC004/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Fannie Bay Equestrian Club Inc Anja Zimmermann

1. THAT the Committee note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Community representative Lorraine Corowa declared that the views expressed at this committee are her personal views as a community representative and not the views of her senior public servant role within the Northern Territory Government.
2. THAT the Committee note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Community representative Ulrike Kachel declared that she is also on the Committee for Friends of Casuarina Coastal Reserve.

CARRIED 8/0

5.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC005/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Museum and Art Gallery of the NT Kirsten Abbott

THAT the minutes of the East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 8/0

7 MOVING OF ITEMS**7.1 MOVING OF ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

7.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN

Nil

7.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Nil

8 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 OFFICER UPDATES****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC006/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Museum and Art Gallery of the NT Kirsten Abbott

THAT the report entitled Officer Updates be received and noted.

CARRIED 8/0

9.2 MEMBERS VERBAL UPDATES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC007/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Community Member Lorraine Corowa

THAT the report entitled Members Updates be received and noted.

Community Representative Lorraine Corowa

- Community members have reported sightings of dingos at East Point to Lorraine, who asked what is City of Darwin's approach to managing dingos. Emma Smith responded that dingos have always been present at East Point and are regularly detected during wildlife surveys on camera traps. Dingos are discussed in the East Point Reserve Biodiversity Management Plan and they are an important part of the reserve's healthy and functioning ecosystem. The dingos recorded at East Point appear to be pure and not mixed with wild dogs.
- In response to media queries, City of Darwin Media Team has put together a statement on City of Darwin's management of dingos. Emma Smith will pass this statement on to Lorraine to use when responding to community queries.
- Lorraine Corowa mentioned the possibility of avian influenza arriving and that people should call the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline if they spot groups of dead birds.

Fannie Bay Equestrian Club Inc, Anja Zimmermann

- Queried why the grass is not being mown at East Point. Nick Fewster responded that East Point remains closed due to ongoing Cyclone Fina clean-up works and that the grass is not mown because the safety of contractors cannot be guaranteed and the long grass also discourages public use of these areas.
- Anya Zimmermann noted that weeds in the unmown grass areas are now flowering and seeding, which will worsen the spread of weeds in the reserve and into their lease area.

Birdlife Top End, Anne Woollard

- Anne Woollard advised she wasn't aware that East Point Reserve was closed as they have been continuing to undertake their monthly shorebird surveys. Nick Fewster mentioned there have been communications about Parks and Reserve closures released periodically after the cyclone.

Museum and Art Gallery of the NT, Kirsten Abbott

- Kirsten Abbott offered the Museum's assistance in developing the content and providing images for the updated Science Trail signs. This was greatly appreciated by the environment team, and they will be in touch.

Friends of East Point, Helen Haritos

- Helen Haritos mentioned the Friends of East Point recently undertook more revegetation planting in the breezeway area.

CARRIED 8/0

10 MEMBER REPORTS

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

12 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC008/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Community Member Ulrike Kachel

THAT the next East Point Reserve Advisory Committee be held on Thursday, 14 May 2026, at 4:30 PM (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section), Meeting Room Bidjpidji (Meeting Room 1), Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin.

CARRIED 8/0**13 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EPRAC009/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Community Member Ulrike Kachel

THAT the meeting be closed at 4:52 pm.

CARRIED 8/0

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2026.

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CHAIR