

**Present Youth Councillors:**

Mahalia Devine  
Leigh Frost  
Christian Jackson  
Jozette Jones  
Jackarra Jones  
Elizabeth Neal

**Longreach Regional Council Officers:**

Liz Turner  
Sandra Warren

**Apologies:**

None

**General Business**

- Photos of each Youth Councillor were taken to put on the website and into the next edition of IILY to introduce them to the community.
- Communication – what is the best way to communicate e.g. what's app, messenger, text  
It was agreed that text messaging will be the best form of communication from now on.
- Set meeting dates for 2024  
Mondays seem the best day of the week 3 – 5pm  
Meetings once a month:  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May  
Starting with the first 2 months, following meetings to be set as we go.
- Youth week- Organise an event for Monday 8 April  
We have Monday 8 April where no activity has been organised yet and it was offered to the Youth Councillors to plan the day if they are keen. After great discussion it was decided on the following.
  - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, Football V Netball games.  
Start at 9am with Touch games round robin style, once all teams have played then move to a netball comp. All teams 8 a side, kids can either come with a team already or be included into a team on the day, Touch fields will be half field x 2 Jozette & Jackarra can ref Touch and Netball. Winning team prize both football and netball – potentially Darcy's diner vouchers.  
On top of that prizes for best dressed team and best team name.  
Zoooper Doopers and a Sausage sizzle on the day.

**To-dos:**

Jackarra will ask the Netball Assoc if we can use Netball facilities  
Liz Neal to book the Showgrounds  
Liz Turner will ask the Jnr league if we can use their football equipment

- Event involvement
  - Commissioner for youth and children is visiting Longreach on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 3.30pm visiting Longreach and would like to meet with the Youth Councillors. Jackarra, Jozette, Mahalia, Leigh, Liz and Christian all expressed interest in attending.
  - Community forums – A new format for the community forums will be tested with a variety of tables with different topics at each. Community can come and talk to the Councillor and staff member at each table.
    - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 12pm Longreach, 2pm – 4pm Ilfracombe
    - Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April Isisford & Yaraka
    - Would the council like to be part of the youth table?
    - Jackarra possibly can attend Longreach.
- Youth Mayor

A discussion around appointing a Youth Mayor and Deputy as a point of contact to represent the Youth Council.

It was put to the table for the councilors to nominate for the positions, Jozette nominated as Youth Mayor with no opponent. Everyone carried Jozette to be Youth Mayor.

Mahalia & Christian nominated as Deputy Youth Mayor which went to a secret ballot vote.

Christian Jackson was elected as Deputy Mayor.

Congratulations to Jozette (Youth Mayor) & Christian (Youth Deputy Mayor).
- Longreach Show stall

This year the new Youth Council will be running the LRC council stall, we have a \$5000 budget to put towards this event.

The stall will be open from 9am – 2pm, Councillors will be onsite through the day.

What ideas would Youth Council like to put forward for the stall to attract visitors to our stall.

  - Hourly science experiments
  - Purpose of the stall – suggestions, and input
  - Paper plane making competition
  - Minute to win it games
  - Scavenger hunt / councillor hunt
  - Unjumble sentence scavenger hunt
  - Bold bright colors/ eyecatching

Come back to April meeting with a plan and ideas for the show stall
- Where you would like to go with Youth Council

What would the group like to see the Youth Council achieve during their time as Councillors?

  - Less boredom for 16 / 17 year olds
  - More youth involved in community groups
  - Reopening of the youth club

- Outback futures programs  
Outback futures is running the "Gather the girls" and "Bring the boys" program successfully in Winton where a Counsellor catches up with the youth whenever they are in town. An initiative we would like to start running in Longreach.  
Feedback was requested what their thoughts are and how this can work.
  - Gather the girls bring the boys sessions, run by Outback futures councilors, on topics of the choice of the students.
  - Possibly take it to the school rather than rely on people turning up.
  - How would we start this, would we offer a free drink, food etc. to bring them in.?
  - Big Sister type open discussion
  - Board games café – come along and play a game, Q & A sessions
  - Location – main street, straight after school
  - Different options e.g. football, board games, arts and craft, etc.
- Other suggestions for bringing Youth together in the community.  
Cobra Thai Boxing is very popular  
Potentially Mothers groups / playgroup  
Self-defense classes

Events to get excited about

Online competitions – best photo, unjumble the riddle, best quote of the week,  
Possibly a dedicated Youth Council Facebook page.

Meeting closed 4.45pm

Next meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> April 3.15pm Longreach Council Depot.