

Special General Meeting
Tuesday 23 May 2006 held at Indulkana
RE: MINTABIE

The meeting commenced at 12:00 noon with approximately 75 people in attendance. SA

Government visitors included:

Attorney General's Department	Adrian Shackley
PIRSA	Paul Heithersay
	Mark McGeough
	Bob Larkins
	John Dale
	Deanna Trenham
	Justin Gum
	Ian Hopton
Department of Premier & Cabinet	John Wright
SA Police	Superintendent Peter Anderson
	Sgt. Kim Goreham
	Mark Jackman

AP 25/5/06 8:45 AM

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Mr Trevor Adamson provided interpreter services for the meeting.

Bernard Singer welcomed everyone to this meeting at Indulkana and introduced all the visitors to the meeting. Anangu were also told the meeting was being broadcast on 5NPY and people listening could ring in with any comments on questions. Bernard also welcomed Yami Lester to the meeting.

Adrian Shackley, Attorney General's Department spoke about the history of Mintabie opal mining started in the 1970's. Mintabie was declared as a precious stones field in 1980. This enabled people to get opals from Mintabie. When the AP Land Rights Act came about in 1981, there was a lease put in place to allow for town camp sites. There were annual licences for people living in the town and Crown lands department, Port Augusta managed these annual licences.

There was also a Consultative Committee established with 5 members – 2 x from APY, 1 x Police, 1 x PIRSA, 1 x Mintabie Progress Association.

There were also by-laws about Mintabie such as the hotel which normally would not have been allowed. The lease lasted for 21 years and since 2002 there have been interim arrangements managed by PIRSA. For several years, there have been discussions about a new lease for Mintabie. The current arrangements ends in December this year and we need to be thinking about new arrangements.

The State Government recognises there is a need for changes because some of the problems created there. The State is here today to hear Anangu views about Mintabie.

Huey Tjami, from Mimili, said we already heard this story at Umuwa and that is why we are having this meeting here now.

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Huey Cullinan, Indulkana, said that Mintabie is for Yankunytjatjara people and we want that town area. It is his area and they want to look after the place and work on the problems.

Ronnie Brumby, Indulkana, wanted to talk about how Mintabie used to be, before the Land Rights Act became a law. Now that the law is strong, we are looking at Mintabie. Sometimes we report problems about Mintabie to Police and they don't do anything. Now there is a chance to make the law stronger and get rid of the troublemakers living at Mintabie who are causing problems for our people. We want APY to make strong laws about the Mintabie township.

Whiskey Tjukangku, Indulkana, said we have to come together and say strong things about Mintabie and get rid of the trouble with grog runners and marijuana.

Kawaki Thompson, Anilayla, said it is sad because young people aren't getting educated by the Tjilpis because of problems being caused by Mintabie. Mintabie belongs to APY and it is a problem far across the lands. There are a lot of bad things at Mintabie and there needs to be by-laws to run Mintabie the right way. I am thinking about the bad things at Mintabie and how we can come together to make things better. The Government needs to work together as one. We need to be one with our Land Rights.

Leslie Mingkilli, Indulkana, said Mintabie is getting bigger and it is our township, but he wants to talk about his son. The shop keeper at Mintabie hit his son and his son hit him back. The shopman is a trouble maker.

Huey Tjami, said Mintabie is alright but a few others came in there and caused problems and they are killing our people. If people are working in their mines, that's alright but we have to get rid of the others.

Whiskey Tjukangku, said we need to get rid of most of the people at Mintabie and only keep a few who are doing the right thing.

Bernard Singer talked about how mining may happen on the lands later in the next 20 years or so but people will say no because of how Mintabie operates. Mintabie is a big source for grog, petrol, drugs, rip-offs etc. The place needs to be cleaned up.

Huey Cullinan, said he talks on behalf of older people who like to book up 2nd hand clothes at Mintabie so they don't have to go to Alice Springs or Port Augusta. But there is a hardware shop where lots of problems come from.

Ronnie Brumby asked a question about the Act and Kunmanara Morley said that rules about Mintabie were in the lease that ran out. Now we are thinking about a new lease with harder rules. Ronnie said we need to do a Review and make it stronger. Let people stay who are working but not others. Kunmanara Morley said yes we could make rules to say only people who are working the , or running a business the right way can stay and no-one else. Ronnie said it is important for APY to put the law straight so that Police can work with us. Ronnie asked Police for information.

Superintendent Peter Anderson, SAPOL said they can respond if people make a complaint but SAPOL would be happy to work with any stronger laws. Ronnie asked if new laws would make the Police respond quicker to reports. Kunmanara Morley said APY has spoken with Police about

cleaning up problems at Mintabie. Superintendent Peter Anderson said the police are keen to work with communities to ensure people can live in peace. The Police would like the laws strengthened about Mintabie.

Nura Ward, Aged Care with NPYWC at Mimili, said that we should continue with the store, 2nd hand clothes and the school as there are not APY children there. There is a hospital there with no Anangu working there. It is clean and people go there and then return to their community. We are always chasing Mai Wiru and it is not at Mintabie. We need that there for our people.

Peter De Rose, Indulkana, said they don't want to sack everyone at Mintabie but there are too many places like the hardware store that sells pipes, food, etc. They also sell 2nd hand cars, many that are rubbish. If old people want to go shopping, there should be 1 or 2 stores but now there are many people living there not doing mining and they are selling grog, marijuana, etc. We should come together as APY and work with the miners to make things right. Many people have passed away from problems at Mintabie and many have bought rubbish cars. They hold our key cards and they give nothing. They are just killing us. We should support our communities and stores, not the ones at Mintabie run by white people. What have they done for our people?

Peter Mungkari, Indulkana, agrees with Mr Cullinan about the stores. In our community the store closes on Saturday at noon and is closed on Sunday so some of us shop at Mintabie. It helps us for food. Our stores are too dear but we are lucky we can get 2nd hand clothes at Mintabie. We now have to look carefully at making the laws stronger for Mintabie.

Nicholas Coulthard, Indulkana, said it is true there are problems at Mintabie. The hardware shop sells things for smoking marijuana. They also supply alcohol and marijuana. They also have a hotel at Mintabie too. For people listening on the west side at Watarru, Pipalyatjara, Amata, etc. and for people here, we need to look at the problems. The old people won't be around in a few years and we young leaders need to fix this to make it better for others that come along. I went near Mt John, near Mintabie and they are growing marijuana there. White people live at Mintabie and cause trouble but they get away with it while Anangu get caught.

Kawaki Thompson said we should use a Consultative Committee to work on the lease to make it better.

Yami Lester, Walatinna, Chairman of Yankunytjatjara Council, said that when Mr Adamson was Chair of APY, Yankunytjatjara Council was given the right to negotiate about Mintabie. Yami Lester said that the Government was going too slow and the lease was going to run out in 2002. People needed to think about it and PIRSA helped Yankunytjatjara Council sort it out after 2002. In 2003, Yankunytjatjara Council were ready to sign off but AP asked them to wait. Yankunytjatjara Council is still waiting and the Crown still has the documents. APY can have a look and make some comments. Yami would like to move a motion that after this meeting to meet at Marla and Yankunytjatjara Council can table their document for all to look at and amend and make comment.

1.45pm Lunch Break

The meeting resumed at 2.45pm

Owen Burton, Amata, rang in earlier on the wrong number but now has the right number. He said there are people making a lot of money at Mintabie and they pay only 12% to Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara. We need to stand up for our land and our laws. People need to respect the law. Mintabie sell cars and hold key cards for people. They are breaking APY law when they don't do mining only. They also have a pub and sell things to Anangu across the lands. Owen supports making the laws stronger.

Kunmanara Morley explained that we could look at the money side of things in any new agreement. She spoke about Mr Lester's comments he made before lunch and said she has the document from Yankunytjatjara Council and it is a very useful document for helping with the agreement. The AGM asked that the members be consulted about Mintabie and that is the reason for today's meeting. Kunmanara Morley said she agreed with the resolution to work on this matter and bring back to members at a future general meeting.

Yami Lester said PIRSA must report back to Mintabie on what is being discussed.

Bernard Singer introduced Paul Heithersay, CEO of PIRSA. **Paul Heithersay** read part of a letter from the Mintabie Progress Association requesting to work with the Traditional owners to come up with a positive future.

Kunmanara Morley suggested that a resolution be made based on Mr Lester's suggestions.

Resolution:

1. That APY continue to work with the State Government and Traditional owners on the draft documents.

2. That APY/Yankunytjatjara Council/PIRSA/SAPOL/Mintabie Progress Association/Traditional Owners form a working group to work on the documents and report back to Anangu at a Special General Meeting.

Moved: Yami Lester
Seconded: Sadie Singer
Carried: All

Huey Tjami said there is a planned homelands meeting of AP Services at Marla next week. He said the meeting should be on the lands at Umuwa.

Whiskey Tjukangku said that Marla is not the place for AP Services to hold their meeting and they should be on the lands.

Nura Ward, Blackhill No 1, said the only homeland near Marla is Walatinna and a few near here. The meeting should be at Umuwa or on the lands.

The meeting ended at 3.50pm

Minutes by Ken Newman