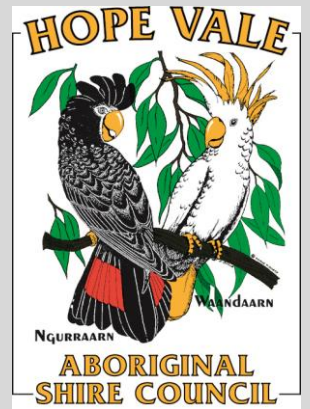


Minutes



General Meeting

Wednesday 11 November 2015

Council Chambers, Hope Vale

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Cr. Greg McLean (Mayor)
Cr. June Pearson (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Chris Woibo
Cr. Dwayne Bowen
Cr. Carmen Pearson

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Officers Present: Chief Executive Officer Ross Higgins

MEETING OPENED

Meeting declared open at 9.50 am

APOLOGIES

nil

The Mayor requested a minutes silence for those recently passed.

Item 1: Declaration of conflict, any perceived or other potential conflict of interest to be declared prior to meeting.

Nil

Item 2 (a): Confirmation of Minutes of General Meeting held on 14 October, 2015

Moved by Cr Chris Woibo

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

01111115 Resolution: That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 14 October 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Item 3: Business arising from minutes of General Meeting held on 14 October, 2015

Nil

Item 4: REPORTS

1. Mayor

- Attended the LGAQ Annual Conference and Indigenous Leaders Forum in Toowoomba.
- Meeting with Richard Shannon and Cheryl Cannon from Good to Greater Schools and Finn Buckley from the Hope Vale School in relation to the future of the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Cape York Land Council

A letter has been received from Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation on behalf of the Dhubbi Warra Aboriginal Corporation seeking to discuss the transfer of the town area land currently held in trust by Council to the Dhubbi Warra Aboriginal Corporation. It is stated that the State Government gave assurances in or about 2011 that the process of the transfer of the Council DOGIT would begin immediately after the initial land transfer in 2011

The letter also requests that these discussions take place before the freeholding pilot project reaches the stage of formal community consultation and the approval of the freeholding instrument by the Minister.

Councillors indicated that they were never aware of any assurances provided by the State Government.

Action Required: The CEO to urgently request a meeting with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines and the Department of Local Government to ascertain the State Government's position on this matter.

George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten

Cr Carmen Pearson declared an interest in this matter and refrained from entering any discussion

An approach has been made to Council from Good to Greater Schools Australia expressing an interest in taking control of the kindergarten and attaching it to the Hope Vale Cape York Academy School. The reason for the request is to assist with a smoother transition of children from the Kindy to Prep at the school.

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr June Pearson

02111115 Resolution: That Council agrees in principle to allow the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten to be transferred to the Cape York Aboriginal Academy in Hope Vale conditional on fact that the employment terms and conditions of existing employees are satisfactorily negotiated and addressed.

CARRIED

Social Housing

The concept drawing for the 4 x 1 ½ / 2 bedroom houses proposed to be constructed on allotments 10 & 11 Alec Cameron Drive was presented to Council. There is no objection to this proposal proceeding.

Government Champion

Noted that Ms Liza Carroll is now visiting Hope Vale on Wednesday 18 November and meeting with Council at 1.00pm.

Telstra

Advice has been provided by Telstra on the following:

- There was a fault identified with the mobile coverage which has only recently been fixed. Mobile coverage should be improving.
- A new signal 4GX is being rolled out and should be available to Hope Vale by the end of December.
- Preliminary estimates have been provided on improving the overall coverage to Hope Vale. These include up-grading the link from Mount Piebald to the Hope Vale exchange and/or extension of the fibre optic to Hope Vale.

Chief Executive Officer Leave

CEO Ross Higgins is taking annual leave commencing Monday 7 December 2015 and returning on Monday 11 January 2016. It is recommended that Finance Director Shannon Gibbs be the Acting Chief Executive Officer during this absence. The CEO will undertake a handover with Ms Gibbs on Friday 4 December and again on Friday 8 January.

Moved by Cr Chris Woibo

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

03111115 Resolution: That Ms Shannon Gibbs be appointed as Acting Chief Executive Officer for the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for the period 7 December 2015 to 8 January 2016 during the absence of Ross Higgins on annual leave.

CARRIED

Donation to St John's Lutheran Church

Council has approved funds of \$40,000.00 within its 2015/2016 budget to be available to support activities for St John's Lutheran Church. The original intent for this support was to assist throughout the year as required by the church.

There has now been a campaign commenced to save the church as the parish is under threat due to funding sources drying up. A request has been made to Council to make a financial donation to the Church as part of the campaign.

Councillors advised that they have no objection to this however any financial support provided from 1 July 2015 until the present would need to be deducted from the final lump sum paid to the Church.

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

04111115 Resolution: That Council agrees to make a financial donation to St John's Lutheran Church, Hope Vale in accordance with the funds allocated in the 2015/2016 budget for support to the Church. The maximum amount of the donation is to be \$40,000.00 less any support already provided since 1 July 2015.

CARRIED

Acceptance of Mayor and Chief Executive Officer Reports

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo

05111115 Resolution: That the reports from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be accepted.

CARRIED

3. Finance Director's Report

The Finance Director's report for the period to 6 November 2015 was tabled and discussed by Council.

Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson

Seconded by Cr June Pearson

06111115 Resolution: That the financial report for the period to 6 November 2015 incorporating the financial statements, be approved and accepted.

CARRIED

4. Social Services Director Report

No report was provided to this meeting as the Social Services Director is away from Hope Vale

5. Operations Manager Report

Report discussed and noted

Moved by Cr Chris Woibo

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

07111115 Resolution: That the Operations Manager's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

Item 5: VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

Item 6: AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

Item 7: CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 – Letter from the Electoral Commission of Queensland advising of the appointment of the Returning Officer for the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for the Queensland Local Government elections to be held on 19 March 2016.

Noted

7.2 – Letter from the Inspector General of Emergency Management advising of a number of programs to strengthen disaster management arrangements in Queensland.

Action Required: Noted by Council and Mayor and Chief Executive Officer will discuss at the Local Disaster Management Group meeting on 12 November.

7.3 – Letter from Chief Executive of Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service advising of the current cluster arrangements for Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal and Laura with a nursing operational review currently underway.

Noted

7.4 – Email from Deputy Director General of Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships advising of the Child Protection Service Reform Project.

Action Required: Chief Executive Officer is to organize a visit from officers from Department as soon as possible.

7.5 – Letter from Fiona Jose, General Manager, Cape York Institute regarding the Empowered Communities project and providing the opportunity to Opt In by 12 November.

Action Required: Letter noted and no further action at this stage

7.6 – Letter from Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Science and Innovation following on from her recent visit to Hope Vale. She is working to establish a Housing Working Group within Hope Vale, advising on a program “First 5 Forever” run by State Library and providing a list of contacts who may be able to assist the Hope Vale Banana Farm to explore innovative banana waste strategies.

Noted

7.7 – Email from Registrar and General Manager of Family Responsibilities Commission advising that Samantha Foster has been appointed to the position of Hope Vale Local Coordinator.

Noted

7.8 – Confirmation of Aboriginality Forms were received for Sidney Mclvor, Nemyah Savo and Callum Mclvor.

Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

08111115 Resolution: That Council confirms Aboriginality of Sidney Mclvor, Nemyah Savo and Callum Mclvor

CARRIED

7.9 – Letter from Hope Vale Arts and Culture Centre seeking to partner with Council in providing financial support to bring Christmas entertainers to Hope Vale as part of the street parade and fete day on 18 December. It is suggested that Council assist with funding the hiring of the performers at a cost of \$5,032.00.

Action Required: CEO to write back to Arts and Cultural Centre and advise that Council is already involved with the Events Committee and providing personnel and financial support.

7.10 – Letter from Bruce Gibson submitting a letter of interest in rental of the property at 156 Thuppi Street, Hope Vale.

Action Required: CEO to write to Bruce and advise that the allocation of housing is the responsibility of the Department of Housing and Public Works. CEO also to write to the Department of Housing and Public Works advising Council supports Bruce Gibson in his request for allocation of this housing as this house has old family interests and connection for Bruce and it would be considered culturally appropriate.

Item 8 – GENERAL BUSINESS

Independent Living Housing

Mayor Greg McLean noted that Philomena Naylor is no longer living in her residence at the independent living complex and has moved to Cairns. There is now someone else living in this residence.

Action Required: CEO to check with Department of Housing about a new tenant as the new occupant needs to be suitable for the original intention of the houses and complex.

Owen Cobus

Owen has approached Councillors seeking support for him to gain the tenancy of his old family house at 86 Kotzur Street, Hope Vale.

The Mayor has a draft letter providing this support and is seeking the endorsement of councillors to forward to Department of Housing. All agreed that this was okay to proceed.

Bull Ride / Rodeo

There is a lot of interest in staging a bull ride for the community and it could be held in the Multi Purpose Centre grounds in the area at the southern end of the football field.

Quotes for panels and stock are to be obtained to ascertain overall cost for an event and identify funding required. Deputy Mayor June Pearson has names of potential suppliers and will obtain the quotes.

Multi Purpose Centre

Concerns have been raised about the cleanliness of the MPC following community events. PCYC staff undertake general cleaning however there should be an alternative after Council organized community events.

There needs to be a process of contract cleaners being called after these events.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.25 pm

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Cr G McLean
Mayor

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Ross Higgins
Chief Executive Officer