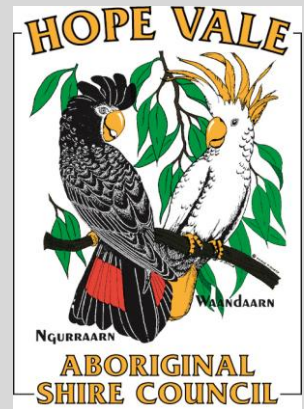


Minutes



General Meeting

Wednesday, 17 September
2014

Council Chambers, Hope Vale

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Officers Present: Chief Executive Officer Ross Higgins

MEETING OPENED

Meeting declared open at 9.35 am

APOLOGIES

Deputy Mayor June Pearson advised that she would be late.

Mayor requested a minute silence following the recent passing of the late John Nipper

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

Nil

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of General Meeting held on 20 August, 2014

Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

0170914 Resolution: That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 20 August 2014 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Item 3: Business arising from minutes of General Meeting held on Wednesday 20 August, 2014.

Council Bus

With concerns in relation to Council liability in case of accidents, Council should look at disposing of the bus. Options might be putting it out to tender.

In the meantime, the vehicle should be locked up and not be made available for any future use.

Item 4: REPORTS

1. Mayor

Meetings attended included one with Minister Glen Elmes in Cairns in relation to the Forrest Review.

Also met with representatives from the Department of Public Works and Housing and Building Asset Services in relation to maintenance works being stopped by the Department on a number of houses on blockholder lots.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Outback Stores Legal Matter

This matter went to a legal mediation on Wednesday 10 September with the outcome being that a cash payment to Council was agreed between both parties. This matter is now finalized and no further action can be taken by either party.

Local Government Grants Commission

Members of the Local Government Grants Commission intend visiting Hope Vale on Wednesday 1 October

Katter Leases

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines that it has been established that there are no outstanding lease entitlements in Hope Vale.

There is now a period of 18 months to contact the Department if any persons believe that they might have an entitlement.

Council will display a notice on this matter on its public notice boards.

Future Auspice of the Hope Vale Justice Group

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer met with representatives of the Department of Justice and Attorney General in relation to Council's position in auspicings future funds of the Justice Group. A funding agreement has been received and this matter needs to be discussed by Council.

Cr Chris Woibo declared an interest

Cr Carmen Pearson declared an interest

AS this left Council without a quorum, the Mayor postponed discussion until Deputy Mayor June Pearson arrived.

Everlina Plaza

One of the shops at Everlina Plaza remains vacant following the withdrawal of one proposed business.

Priscilla Gibson has submitted an expression of interest through the Hope Vale Foundation for a beauty salon, hairdressing, massage, counselling business. This is the same proposal that Council has given approval to Priscilla for the short term use at the PCYC building.

Council has decided that the original offer of the PCYC to Mrs Gibson should remain.

Deputy Mayor June Pearson entered meeting at 10.35 am

Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

02170914 Resolution: 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 17 September 2014 was tabled and discussed by Council.

Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson

Seconded by Cr June Pearson

03170914 Resolution: That the financial report incorporating the financial statements be approved and accepted.

CARRIED

4. Social Services Director Report

The Social Services Director's report was tabled and discussed by Council

Moved by Cr June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

04170914 Resolution: That the Social Services report be accepted.

CARRIED

Cr Carmen Pearson left meeting at 10.55 am

Meeting break for morning tea at 10.55 am

Meeting re-convened after morning tea at 11.05 am

Hope Vale Justice Group

Cr Chris Woibo declared an interest and left the meeting

Discussion was held on future auspice of the Justice Group including issues that had been identified during the past 12 months. The main concern was the matter relating to HR issues and how these could be handled by Council.

There was also discussion around possible alternatives and some councillors believed that an alternative auspice body would be available in Hope Vale.

Moved by Cr June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

05170914 Resolution: That Council no longer auspice the Justice Group funding and the Justice Group work with the Department of Justice and Attorney General to identify an alternative auspice arrangement or incorporation.

CARRIED

Cr Chris Woibo re-entered the meeting

Item 5: VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Wait until the first visitor at 12.30 pm

Item 6: AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

Item 7: CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 – Letter from the Department of Housing and Public Works in relation to the rent policy for social housing. Assessable income to calculate the 25% rental component has been changed.

Letter noted.

7.2 – Email from Harold Ludwick, Cape York Dreaming Track seeking assistance from Council to have legal interns visit Hope Vale to identify if there might be a case to test in court for compensation for people removed to Woorabinda.

Council has indicated that it is not in a position to fund this matter and it could be referred to the Hope Vale Congress Corporation for assistance.

7.3 – Letter from Royal Flying Doctor Service seeking sponsorship for a proposed “Hope Vale’s Got Talent” event to be held on 27 October.

Council does not have the funds to assist at this time.

7.4 – Letter from Lynesse Ludwick following up on her expression of interest for one of the shops in Everlina Plaza to commence coffee and food bar.

As there is now a vacant shop, Council agrees that Lynesse be given an opportunity to start up her business.

She will need to liaise with the Business Development Officer at the Hope Vale Foundation if she requires fit-out assistance for the shop and meet the requirements outlined in the grant available to Council.

7.5 – Email from the Mayor of Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council seeking support from Council to sponsor local riders to participate in the up-coming Yarrabah Rodeo and provide transport and financial assistance to cover the cost of community members to attend the event.

Council is not in a position to assist with this matter at this time.

7.6 – Email from Liz Pearson, Chief Executive Officer of Pormpur Paantghu nAboriginal Corporation seeking Council support for young people from Hope Vale to attend the Youth Summit being held in Pormpuraaw.

Council does not have funds for this purpose and the matter could be referred to the Local Program Office and/or the Art and Culture Centre.

Item 5: VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr Michael Smith from Blackbird International entered meeting at 12.30 pm

Michael advised Council on the project that he was working on to document the significance of the Pearling Disaster that occurred at Cape Melville in 1899. He is meeting with some traditional owners from the area.

Mr Smith left the meeting at 1.20 pm

Jan Robertson, Kim Robertson from James Cook University and Kerry-Lee Bird from DATSIMA entered the meeting at 1.20 pm

Jan Robertson presented Council with a report detailing the findings of the survey undertaken in Hope Vale on the Alcohol Management Plan.

This report will now allow Council to consider finalizing a submission to the State Government on the future direction of alcohol management in Hope Vale.

Jan Robertson, Kim Robertson from James Cook University and Kerry-Lee Bird from DATSIMA left the meeting at 2.15 pm

Item 8 – GENERAL BUSINESS

The Deputy Mayor asked if Council water officers could check the pipes to some farm areas as the water quality is not good. May be due to number of breaks reported recently along Elim Beach Road

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

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Cr G McLean
Mayor

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Ross Higgins
Chief Executive Officer