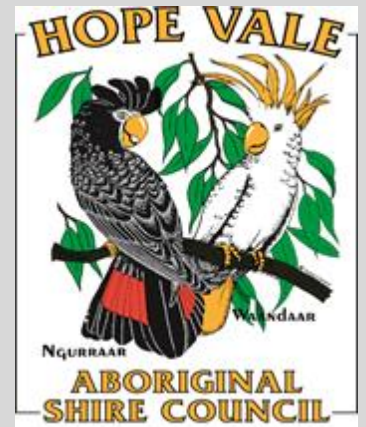


# Minutes



General Meeting

Wednesday 20 April 2016

Council Chambers, Hope Vale

## MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

**Members Present:** Cr. Greg McLean (Mayor)  
Cr. June Pearson (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Barry Bowen  
Cr. Selina Bowen  
Cr Bruce Gibson

## OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

**Officers Present:** Chief Executive Officer Ross Higgins

## MEETING OPENED

Meeting declared open at 9.56 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 16 March, 2016**

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Greg McLean**

01200416 Resolution: That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 16 March, 2016 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

## Confirmation of Minutes of Post Election Meeting held on 4 April, 2016

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

02200416 Resolution: That the minutes of the Post Election Meeting held on Monday 4 April, 2016 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

### Item 3: Business arising from minutes of General Meeting held on 17 February, 2016

- Cr Bruce Gibson advised that there had been great feedback from the community on the 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration held on 8 April and the support provided by Council.
- Mayor Greg McLean provided an up-date for the newly elected councillors on the Australian Human Rights Commission request for conciliation in relation to the issue with Gordon Charlie. This included some history around the initial leases with Cape Flattery Silica Mines and land transfer issues.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11.00am to enable councillors to attend morning tea with visitors from other Cape communities.**

**The meeting re-convened at 11.50am**

### Item 4: REPORTS

#### 1. Mayor

Meetings attended

- Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council - Audit Committee
- DATSIP - Investment Forum
- Queensland Treasury Corporation – Financial Management Forum
- Cape York Land Council

**The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12.15pm**

**The meeting re-convened at 1.20pm**

## Chief Executive Officer's Report

### Council Audit Committee

The Audit Committee requires the nomination of another councillor to sit on the committee following Carmen Pearson losing her place as a councillor at the recent election.

Cr Bruce Gibson nominated for this position.

**Moved by Cr Barry Bowen**

**Seconded by Cr June Pearson**

03200416 Resolution: That Council endorses the appointment of Cr Bruce Gibson to be the second councillor represented on the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Audit Committee

**CARRIED**

### Local Disaster Management Group

Following the local government election, new representatives on the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) and ultimately the District Disaster Management Group (DDMG) are required.

Mayor Greg McLean will continue as the Chairperson of the LDMG and Cr Barry Bowen was nominated for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Selina Bowen**

04200416 Resolution: That Council endorses the appointment of Mayor Greg McLean as Chairperson of the Local and Cr Barry Bowen as the Deputy Chairperson of the Hope Vale Local Disaster Management Group.

**CARRIED**

### Hope Vale Foundation

The current constitution of the Hope Vale Foundation requires the nomination of 2 councillors of Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council to sit on the Foundation Board.

Cr June Pearson and Cr Selina Bowen were nominated for these positions.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson****Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

05200416 Resolution: That Council endorses the appointment of Councillors June Pearson and Selina Bowen to sit on the Board of the Hope Vale Foundation.

**CARRIED****Councillor Expenses Reimbursement and Facilities Policy**

It is recommended that the Councillor Expenses Reimbursement and Facilities Policy be amended in relation to fuel and telephone expenses incurred by those councillors using their private vehicles and phones for council related business.

Clause 2.3.5 be amended to read as follows:

“Councillors will be paid an allowance of \$50.00 per week to cover Council related telephone calls”.

Clause 2.3.6 be amended to read as follows:

“Councillors will be paid an allowance of \$120.00 per week for fuel to allow them to undertake Council related business in their private vehicles”.

The change does not affect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor who have a council owned vehicle and council provided mobile phone.

**Moved by Cr June Pearson****Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson**

06200416 Resolution: That Council approves the amendments to the Councillor Expenses Reimbursement and Facilities Policy as follows:

Clause 2.3.5 – Councillors will be paid an allowance of \$50.00 per week to cover Council related telephone calls

Clause 2.3.6 – Councillors will be paid an allowance of \$120.00 per week for fuel to allow them to undertake Council related business in their private vehicles.

**CARRIED**

### **Chief Executive Officer Recruitment**

Two (2) proposals were received from external parties to assist with the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer.

These were the Local Government Association of Queensland and Leading Roles.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

07200416 Resolution: That Council approves the selection of the Local Government Association of Queensland to assist in the recruitment process for a Chief Executive Officer for the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council.

**CARRIED**

### **Housing Allocations**

The Department of Housing and Public Works has made recommendations to Council for the tenancy of 3 new houses for consideration on cultural grounds.

Council was in agreement with the following:

1. Alfred Pearson to be allocated to 98 Rose Street, Hope Vale
2. Jerome Woibo to be allocated to 442 Link Road, Hope Vale
3. Steven Harrigan to be allocated to 441 Link Road, Hope Vale
4. Jacob Woibo be allocated to house vacated by Alfred Pearson pending completion of further new houses later in 2016.

The Chief Executive Officer is to advise the Department of Housing and Public Works accordingly.

### **Vacant Shops – Everlina Plaza**

Expressions of Interest had been called late last year for the vacant shop next to the Butcher. There were 2 interests provided however one has been difficult to follow up on.

The remaining person was Ms Irene Gibson who wanted to operate a café. Council are in agreement for this to proceed on the following basis:

- Irene completes a Food Licence Application which includes providing a copy of her current Food Supervisor Certificate and relevant insurances within 1 month.

The Chief Executive Officer is to write to Irene and advise her of this requirement and include what the rental payment will be.

### **Hope Vale Community Charitable Trust**

Councillors raised concerns that the community was not aware of the availability of funds from these trusts, how it actually operates and where funds have been provided to date.

Council would like to see applications for community development activities submitted by Council and requested the Chief Executive Officer submit applications for the following projects.

- Cemetery Up-grade and mapping
- Youth Development

Cr Barry Bowen advised that people had approached him with concerns about the operation of the Hope Vale Congress Corporation. There was general discussion on who this organisation represents, the length of time it took for leases to be issued and time taken for the tenancy of blockholder houses to be addressed.

**Action Required:** The Chief Executive Officer to write to ORIC and advise of Council's concerns.

### **Indigenous Governance Awards**

Information has been provided about these awards created by Reconciliation Australia and this is something that Council could enter.

Council has no objection and requests the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with this.

### **Roads Gazettal Project**

This project is progressing however a number of issues have arisen as part of the DATSIP and Housing project on blockholder housing where roads are going into properties that do not have a 30 year lease and are on ALA freehold.

The current policy is that all proposed gazetted roads will only go to front entrance/ fence lines and this will continue to be the case with the properties with no lease.

Chief Executive Officer is to advise DATSIP accordingly.

### **Horses**

Concern is continually raised with the Chief Executive Officer about the number of horses around the town area and the possible consequences if someone is injured by them.

The Chief Executive Officer in conjunction with the Operations Manager and the Animal Management Officer is to write to all horse owners to advise that they need to be removed from the town. Assistance may be required for this from Council resources.

Horses that remain in the town area after this, will be removed and sold

### **Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Audit Committee**

Due to the changes by the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal to the category of Council as from 1 July, there is no longer a requirement for Council to have an Audit Committee.

This matter was discussed at the recent audit committee meeting with the recommendation that as good practice, the audit committee should continue.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

08200416 Resolution: That Council approves the continuation of the audit committee after 1 July 2016 in the same format as it operates now.

**CARRIED**

The audit committee also recommended a slight change to the Audit Committee Charter whereby the section on the secretariat be amended with the inclusion of the Chief Executive Officer as the Secretary in place of the Finance Director.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

09200416 Resolution: That Council approves the amendment to the Audit Committee Charter to include the Chief Executive Officer as the secretary in place of the Finance Director.

**CARRIED**

### **Government Champion Visit**

The Government Champion will now be arriving on Wednesday afternoon and staying at the Aged Care Facility prior to community activities on Thursday 5 May.



Councillors suggested that an evening meal be put on at Aged Care to be attended by Councillors and senior staff.

### **18 Flierl Street Hope Vale**

Advice has now been received that it is intended to demolish the old house at 18 Flierl Street that has remained vacant for over 2 years and Council will be asked to provide a quote for these works.

There was a suggestion that the block may be able to be sub-divided to provide additional allotments if needed.

Council want the allotment to remain as is and not be sub-divided and also recommend that a 4 bedroom house be constructed there as part of the up-coming new house construction programs.

### **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

The Chief Executive Officer advised Council that this policy was being reviewed thoroughly (including legal advice) with the expectation that it will be rolled out in the coming months.

It is intended to advise all employees of the proposed action and once the policy is finalised and approved, further sessions will be held with employees.

### **Acceptance of Mayor and Chief Executive Officer Reports**

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

10200416 Resolution: That the reports from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be accepted.

**CARRIED**

### **Finance Director Shannon Gibbs entered meeting at 3.00pm**

#### **3. Finance Director's Report**

The Finance Director's report for the period to 14 April 2016 was tabled and discussed by Council.

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Selina Bowen**

11200416 Resolution: That the financial report for the period to 14 April 2016 incorporating the financial statements, be approved and accepted.

**CARRIED**

**Finance Director Shannon Gibbs left meeting at 3.30pm**

**4. Social Services Director Report**

No report was provided to this meeting.

**5. Operations Manager Report**

Report discussed and noted

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson**

12200416 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 – Email dated 12 April from Local Government Association of Queensland advising that the next Indigenous Leaders Forum will be held in Cairns on 8 and 9 June 2016.

**Noted**

7.2 – Email dated 6 April from Kerry Lee Bird of DATSIP seeking advice on a proposed date for the next round of consultations around Welfare Reform.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that he had recently been contacted with the request that the sessions need to be held before the end of April.

**Action Required:** Chief Executive Officer to write to DATSIP and suggest 9.00am on Friday 29 April for the Welfare Reform session.

7.3 - Letter dated 15 March from Clare O'Connor, Director General of DATSIP providing a copy of the 2014-2015 Annual Bulletin which includes a Community Data Sheet on Hope Vale.

**Noted**

7.4 – Letter dated 11 March from Gregory Andrews, Threatened Species Commissioner of the Department of the Environment in relation to actions being undertaken to address feral cat impacts in Australia.

**Noted**

7.5 – Letter dated 21 March from Greg Hallam, Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government Association of Queensland requesting nominations for the LGAQ Policy Executive for District No. 12.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

13200416 Resolution: That Council nominates Mayors Alfred Lacy and Fred Gela to represent District No. 12 on the Policy Executive for LGAQ.

**CARRIED**

7.6 – Letter dated 15 March from Clare O'Connor Director General of DATSIP providing advice on the Reparations Scheme – “Acknowledging the Past” campaign.

**Noted**

7.7 – Letter dated 6 April from Tisha Gordon, Organiser of the Hope Vale Pig Hunt Competition for 2016 seeking a donation/sponsorship of a prize for the event.

**Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson**

**Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen**

14200416 Resolution: That Council supports the 2016 Hope Vale Pig Hunt Competition by way of a donation of \$1269.00 to allow purchase of a 40L Engel combi fridge/freezer.

**CARRIED**

## Item 8 – GENERAL BUSINESS

### Security - Everlina Plaza Shops

Cr Bruce Gibson advised that he had been approached by one of the shop operators about the security screens on the courtyard side of his shop.

**Action Required:** Chief Executive Officer to have this matter investigated.

### Novated Leasing / Salary Sacrificing for Councillors

Mayor Greg McLean asked that the Chief Executive Officer look at options available for councillors in these areas and report back as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.40 pm

.....  
**Cr G McLean**  
**Mayor**

.....  
**Ross Higgins**  
**Chief Executive Officer**