



## HOPE VALE ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Council Chambers Meeting Room, Hope Vale  
Date: Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2013

### MINUTES

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#### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

#### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

#### MEETING OPENED

Meeting declared open at 10.22 am

#### APOLOGIES

Nil

**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**

**Moved by Cr Christopher Woibo**

**Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson**

01200313 Resolution: That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 13 February 2013 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

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**Item 3: Business arising from minutes of General Meeting held on Wednesday 13 February 2013.**

Nil

**Item 4: REPORTS**

**1. Mayor**

Housing

Would like to get approval for construction of 14 new houses in 2013/2014 and therefore we should organise a meeting with the Department of Housing within the next month to discuss this.

Welfare Reform

We should not support Welfare Reform in its current format and look at ways to continue to work through the Accord that has State and Commonwealth support.

Accord

Most of the programs in the Accord are now completed and we should be meeting with Helena Wright from FaHCSIA to identify activities and items that can be included in the document to allow Council and Hope Vale to continue to move forward. These could be items such as lighting for the Sports Oval, new bus for Kindergarten.

Safety Plan

The committee needs to make recommendations back to Council

**2. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

**Local Laws**

Local Laws were adopted by Council in April 2012 however no further action was taken at that time. Due to changes in the Local Government Act affecting Local Laws, it has been recommended that Council adopts the Model Local Laws again.

**Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen**

**Seconded by Cr June Pearson**

02200313 Resolution: That Council adopts the following Local Laws.

- Local Law No 1 (Administration) 2013
- Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2013
- Local Law No 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2013
- Local Law No 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2013
- Local Law No 5 (Parking) 2013
- Local Law No 7 (Indigenous Community Land Management) 2013
- Subordinate Local Law No 1 (Administration) 2013
- Subordinate Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2013



Subordinate Local Law No 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2013  
Subordinate Local Law No 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2013  
Subordinate Local Law No 5 (Parking) 2013  
Subordinate Local Law No 7 (Indigenous Community Land Management) 2013

**CARRIED**

### **Hope Vale Foundation**

There were resolutions adopted in 2012 that provided the opportunity of certain services to be undertaken by the Hope Vale Foundation. No action has taken place on these resolutions by the Foundation and it is causing accountability and operational issues for Council. These were:

#### Resolution 08240412

That Council approves the appointment of the HVF as property managers for the business precinct and instruct the CEO to enter into a 5 year service agreement.

#### Resolution 11300112

That Council has resolved to appoint the HVF as project managers for all remaining 2010 NDRRA work and that Council will provide monitoring via a superintendent and works overseer to ensure compliance.

#### Resolution 12300112

That Council has resolved to appoint the HVF as project managers for all remaining 2011 NDRRA work and that Council will provide monitoring via a superintendent and works overseer to ensure compliance.

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo**

03200313 Resolution: That resolution numbers 08240412, 11300112 and 12300112 be rescinded as there is no longer a requirement to have these actions undertaken by the Hope Vale Foundation.

**CARRIED**

### **Banana Farm Road**

Council recognises the importance of the need to have this road sealed as soon as possible and it should be considered as a priority. Work needs to be completed prior to harvesting of bananas in early July.



### **Housing**

There should be 2 x 2 bedroom houses situated on the site at 145 Thuppi Street and even though there are a lot of 2 bedroom houses required into the future due to housing waiting lists, we still need a mix of additional 3 bedroom houses to ensure that there are no overcrowding issues into the future.

### **Roads**

Council needs to maintain roads that access recreational areas within the Local Government Area especially around the Elim Beach area. There are also areas of historical significance that access is required to.

### **Queensland Health**

Concern has been raised by the Community about the changes by Queensland Health that will result in staff reductions at the Hope Vale Clinic. The position of Director of Nursing has been made redundant and there is a possibility that experienced nursing staff who have formed an excellent relationship with the community could be relocated.

The Chief Executive Officer is to write to the Minister for Health to express Council disappointment at the job losses and ask for the situation to be reviewed.

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

### **Debtors**

Council requires that the Chief Executive Officer and Finance Director reviews all debtors and identify those that can be recovered and propose a list of debts that are unlikely to be recovered for Council for write off purposes.

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson**

04200313 Resolution: That the Finance Report be accepted

**CARRIED**

## **Item 5 - Visitors and Presentations**

### **1.00 pm Bertie Gordon**

Bertie is seeking support from Council in relation to a long running dispute with his neighbor.

It is apparent that the Department of Housing are not taking any action and he has applied for a number of restraining orders through the courts. Police don't appear to want to take any action. The situation is becoming serious.

The Chief Executive Officer is to make some enquiries on behalf of Bertie and give some feedback to him.

### **1.50 pm Bertie Gordon left meeting**



## Item 6 - Agenda Items

### Council Policies

A number of policies have been reviewed and need to be adopted by Council.

**Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen**

**Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo**

05200313 Resolution: That Council approves the following policies

Investment Policy  
Debt Policy  
Procurement Policy  
Revenue Policy  
Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy  
Advertising Spending Policy  
Community Engagement Policy  
Contracts Manual  
Community Grants Policy  
General Complaints Policy  
Hospitality and Entertainment Policy

**CARRIED**

### Alcohol Management Plan Review

Councillors will continue to review questions that can be part of the survey.

Survey is to be coordinated by Council's Engagement Officer, Russell Gibson.

## Item 7 – Correspondence

- 7.1 Penny Johnson, Cook Shire - NQ LGA Conference 2013 – noted and Council will support with advising people about the conference.
- 7.2 Tanika Deemal-Parker - Letter seeking financial support for tertiary studies.

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Dwyane Bowen**

06200313 Resolution: That Council approves an amount of \$2,000.00 be made available to Tanika Deemal-Parker to assist with University expenses.

**CARRIED**

- 7.3 Hope Vale St John Lutheran Church – letter seeking financial support to send 2 representatives from Hope Vale to the General Synod of the Lutheran Church being held in Adelaide in April 2013



**Moved by Cr Carmen Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo**

07200313 Resolution: That Council approves an amount of \$2,400.00 as financial support to the Hope Vale Lutheran Church to assist 2 representatives from Hope Vale to attend the General Synod in April 2013.

**CARRIED**

- 7.4 Jai Ross - letter from Tisha Gordon and Cliffy Pearson seeking financial assistance for accommodation and fuel to take Jai to Cairns for ball boy duties at 3 Northern Pride home games.

**Cr June Pearson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion**

**Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen**

**Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo**

08200313 Resolution: That Council approves support for Tisha Gordon and Cliffy Pearson by way of accommodation and fuel to assist Jai Ross to attend 3 Northern Pride home games in Cairns.

**CARRIED**

- 7.5 AISS Security and Training – letter advising of their services and training programs. CEO is to contact the company to obtain more information and get a quote on delivering services and training to Hope Vale people.

#### **Item 8 – General Business**

- 8.1 There is an urgent need for the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten to have a bus to assist with collection of children and undertake activities. The current bus has been badly vandalized.

Cr Pearson advised that this can also form part of Council's discussion with FaHCSIA in identifying new issues for funding under the Hope Vale Accord.

**Cr Carmen Pearson declared an interest in this matter and refrained from taking any part in the discussion**

**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen**

09200313 Resolution: That Council approves the purchase of a new bus for the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten immediately.

**CARRIED**

- 8.2 Toyota Prado vehicle 215 KKW is currently surplus to requirements and waiting for up-coming sale/tender process. With the forthcoming AMP review survey to commence soon, this vehicle will be made available to the Community Engagement Officer to assist with the survey. Once the AMP review is finalized, the vehicle will then be made available for sale.



**Moved by Cr June Pearson**

**Seconded by Cr Chris Woibo**

10200313 Resolution: That Council approves the use of Toyota Prado 215 KKW by Council's Community Engagement Officer until the completion of the AMP review process in Hope Vale. Vehicle is then to be disposed of.

**CARRIED**

8.3 Councillors have raised concerns about recent Police issues relating to inappropriate conduct and attitude of a local officer which has caused problems in the community.

There are also concerns about the free and unwarranted use of capsicum spray.

Chief Executive Officer is to write to the Minister and Commissioner for Police and Far North Regional Inspector raising these issues and seek a meeting with Council to address the matters.

8.4 The Hope Vale Foundation needs to have a better presence in Hope Vale and the old Council Chambers building is the ideal position for them.

The Congress has been asked to vacate and find alternative office accommodation and the Rangers can move to the Blue Donga behind the Service Station and Red Shed.

8.5 There is a request from Peter Scott, President of the South East Cape Rugby League Football Club seeking Council support towards insurance payments for the players of the 2 local Rugby League teams.

**Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen**

**Seconded by Cr June Pearson**

11200313 Resolution: That Council approves financial assistance towards insurance for players from Rebels and Warriors teams of \$6060.00 to be paid to South East Cape Rugby League Football Club. This is approved on the basis that these teams should do fund raising and seek sponsorship to assist them in attending other future carnivals

**CARRIED**

8.6 Independent Living Residences

There are concerns about the number of people living in these houses when they were built specifically for independent living / semi retirement purposes.

Chief Executive Officer is to contact Housing to talk to families to ask all other family members to move out and original tenants to be sole occupants. The houses need to return to original concept.



8.7 Island and Cape

Chief Executive Officer is to organise a meeting with Island and Cape to discuss pricing of goods for sale through store.

8.8 Nathan Woibo is seeking to complete his apprenticeship with Council through the workshop. There have been issues in the past and these need to be looked at.

Chief Executive Officer is to organise contact with Skills 360 to get some feed back from them as well as Petrina Villaflor for more information.

8.9 Delores Darkan has approached Councillors for her house back. She should be referred to Housing Department

8.10 Concerns had been raised at HACC in relation to the servicing of the bus. This needs to be addressed as soon as possible especially to ensure that the air conditioning is working.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.30pm.

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

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