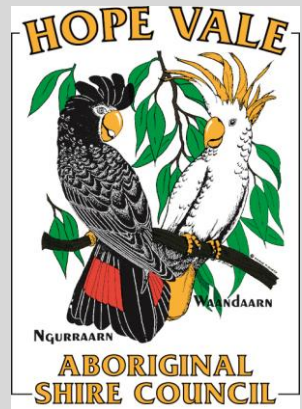


Minutes



General Meeting

Wednesday, 25 March 2015

Council Chambers, Hope Vale

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Cr. Greg McLean (Mayor)
Cr. June Pearson (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Dwayne Bowen
Cr Chris Woibo
Cr. Carmen Pearson – by teleconference from Cairns Office

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Officers Present: Chief Executive Officer Ross Higgins

MEETING OPENED

Meeting declared open at 9.55 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 of General Meeting held on 18 February, 2015

Moved by Cr June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

01250315 Resolution: That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 18 February 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Item 3: Business arising from minutes of General Meeting held on Wednesday 18 February, 2015.

Feedback provided about parental responsibility for children at the swimming pool. Operators have advised that it is very difficult to get parents to come with children. Signs still need to be displayed.

Item 4: REPORTS

1. Mayor

- Visit to the Family Centre at Flaggy Creek to look at the facilities and gain an understanding of the operation.
- Meeting with representatives from Department of State Development on issues such as Planning Scheme, Economic Development and recent changes in State Government.
- Local Disaster Management Group and District Disaster Management Group meetings leading up to and post Tropical Cyclone Nathan which passed near Hope Vale during early hours of Friday morning 20 March.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Annual Policy Review

The following policies have been reviewed as per requirements of the Local Government legislation and recommended for endorsement by Council.

- Revenue Policy
- Debt Policy
- Procurement Policy

Moved by Cr June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

02250315 Resolution: That the reviewed Revenue Policy, Debt Policy and Procurement Policy be adopted.

CARRIED

Cape Indigenous Mayor's Alliance (CIMA)

A letter from the CIMA Chief Executive Officer advising of proposed secretariat arrangements for the group and possible costs to assist with the engagement of an administration officer was discussed.

An issue was raised about the need for a full time position if the CIMA group was to only continue as a lobby group and whether this might only need to be a part time position. The Mayor would also like to have further discussions with other CIMA members to ascertain what their actual platform was proposed to be moving into the future.

The Chief Executive Officer was asked to write to the CIMA CEO on this matter.

St John's Lutheran Church

The church had some volunteers in Hope Vale last year during Muni Day celebrations and another group was coming again this year.

A request has been made to allow this group to stay at the Aged Care Facility again similar to last year where accommodation was provided by Council and the group paid for meals prepared by the cooks at the facility. The group will also provided volunteer support as and if required at the facility.

Council discussion took place and no objection was raised to this request.

Mechanical Workshop

Deputy Mayor June Pearson and Cr Chris Woibo declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion.

Further discussions have taken place with the General Manager of the Hope Vale Foundation in relation to progressing the arrangements for leasing the workshop premises. The interest is still there and some minor issues need to be addressed.

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

03250315 Resolution: That Council enters into a leasing arrangement with the Hope Vale Foundation as per their Expression of Interest for the Council Mechanical Workshop

CARRIED

Grants Proposed under Indigenous Advancement Strategy

Advice provided on proposed grants from Prime Minister and Cabinet for grants for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy. Submissions made for funding totaled \$6.992m however \$332,633.00 was approved for 3 projects. These were in the areas of Youth and Social Support, Communications and Media and Early Childhood/Kindergarten.

An initial meeting has been held with officers from PM&C with the next step identifying exactly what the funds will be used for as well as key performance indicators.

May Council Meeting

The next Indigenous Leaders Forum (coordinated through LGAQ) is planned for Palm Island on 20 and 21 May and will therefore clash with the May Council meeting. The Chief Executive Officer is to look at an alternative date for the Council meeting in conjunction with Cr Bowen.

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

04250315 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 25 March 2015 was tabled and discussed by Council.

A list of outstanding debts for old rents and utility charges was tabled for discussion. Council requires a letter to be provided to each person to make payment or implement an agreed payment plan within one month otherwise the debt will be referred to a debt collection agency. It is noted that there is an outstanding debt owing by the late Michelle Murphy.

In relation to the Butcher, the lease discussions need to be finalised within one month.

Moved by Cr June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Carmen Pearson

05250315 Resolution: That the debt of \$685.81 owing by the late Michelle Murphy be written off and records noted accordingly.

CARRIED

Moved by Cr Chris Woibo

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

06250315 Resolution: That the financial report for the period to 25 March 2015 incorporating the financial statements, be approved and accepted.

CARRIED

Cr Carmen Pearson left the meeting at 11.50am

4. Social Services Report

Report noted.

Moved by Cr Dwayne Bowen

Seconded by Cr June Pearson

07250315 Resolution: That the Social Services Director's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

5. Operations Manager Report

Report noted

Moved by Cr Chris Woibo

Seconded by Cr Dwayne Bowen

08250315 Resolution: That the Operations Manager's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

Item 5: VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

School Principal, Finn Buckley entered meeting at 12 noon

Mr Buckley provided Council with an up-date on school attendance during the first term of the year which showed a marked improvement on the same time last year. This is the strongest start on attendance for the past 6 years. The processes put into place seem to be working.

As part of the on-going support for the school, Mr Buckley was asked to bring the school captains to the next meeting to formally introduce them to the Council.

Mr Buckley left the meeting at 12.25 pm

Item 6: AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

Item 7: CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 – Letter from Ms Erica Prosser, Principal of the Holy Spirit College in relation to a joint project around mapping and signage of the cemetery.

Action Required: CEO to write to Ms Prosser advising of work currently being proposed at the cemetery and to see if the students might be able to work in with this project.

7.2 – Letter from Esmae Bowen seeking financial assistance to support herself and grandson Naz to attend a modelling workshop.

Action Required: CEO to write to Mrs Bowen advising that no funds are available from Council for these purposes and she should consider approaching the Hope Vale Congress for financial assistance or the Hope Vale Foundation for other possible support.

7.3 – Email from Hon Curtis Pitt, Treasurer acknowledging Council's request for a meeting and advising that once dates are identified, further details will be provided. – Noted

7.4 – Letter from Tarnya Smith MP introducing herself as Shadow Minister for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs – Noted

7.5 – Email from Fiona Jose, CEO of Cape York Partnership advising of an up-coming meeting on Empowered Communities. – Noted, also noted that initial meeting already has taken place.

Item 8 – GENERAL BUSINESS

Building and Construction Department

Deputy Mayor June Pearson advised that she sat in on one of the recent tool box talks at the Building and Construction Department. Areas for discussion and interest were around licence requirements and purchase orders for sub-contractors.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.50 pm.

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Cr G McLean
Mayor

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Ross Higgins
Chief Executive Officer