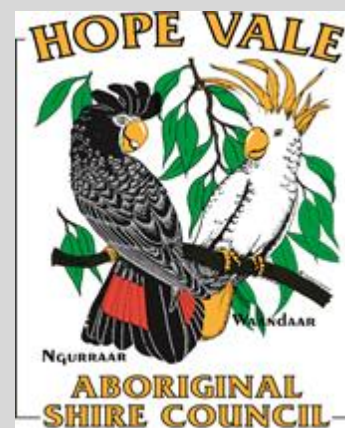


Minutes



General Meeting

Wednesday 26 April 2017

Council Chambers, Hope Vale

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.35 am

The Council then observed a minute silence in recognition of those members of the region that have recently passed away or suffered illness or injury

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

Apologies: Nil

Officers Present: Chief Executive Officer Steve Linnane
Finance Director Shannon Gibbs (Item 6.3)

3 OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS

3.1 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 172 of the Local Government Act 2009, no declarations of material personal interest were made during this meeting.

3.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 173 of the Local Government Act 2009, Cr Bruce Gibson declared a conflict of interest in Item 10.2 due to a matter being discussed related to a family member. Cr Gibson left the meeting during discussions on this item.

3.3 REGISTERS OF INTEREST

Councillors reviewed their Registers of Interests and Related Parties Disclosures

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 March, 2017

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution:

That the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 22 March, 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 March, 2017

Nil

6 REPORTS

6.1 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provided a verbal report, outlining various matters dealt with, and meetings attended since the last meeting. Meetings included

- 2017 5th Local Government Financial Sustainability Summit in Cairns on 29 & 30 March 2017
- Council's Audit Committee in Cairns on 31 March 2017
- Meeting in Cairns on 20 April 2017 organized by LGAQ with Indigenous Mayors, CEOs and Minister for Housing de Brenni for discussions on the NPARIH Review and the QPC Inquiry into Service Delivery in Remote & Discrete Indigenous Communities.

6.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

6.2.1. Meetings Attended

The CEO advised of meetings that he had attended since the last Council meeting.

6.2.2. Partnership Agreement – Good to Greater Schools Australia (GGSA) and George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten

GGSA have advised of their desire to strengthen the provision of early learning and child care in Hope Vale and have requested a letter of authorization to

- Assist the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten to progress an outline of models and services that would meet the ambitions of the community for early childhood.
- Speak with any existing agencies/organisations on our behalf to understand current arrangements (contracted and non-contracted);
- Have access to the financial information in order to understand the existing relationship between Hope Vale George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten and C&K;
- Meet with and develop proposals for additional support with the Queensland and Australian Government Agencies;
- Meet with approved Early Learning Providers to understand and negotiate models of provision on its behalf.

Moved by Deputy Mayor June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Selena Bowen

Resolution:

That Good to Greater Schools Australia be authorized to investigate strengthening the provision of early learning and child care in Council operated facilities.

CARRIED

6.2.3: Local Government Disaster Management Conference - Mackay 9-11 May 2017

LGAQ, Inspector General Emergency Management, Qld Fire and Rescue Services, Qld Reconstruction Authority, and Qld Police Service have facilitated a conference for Qld local governments in Mackay on 9-11 May 2017, for long term issues for Councils to build community disaster resilience and local capacity.

Moved by Deputy Mayor June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution:

That interested Councillors be authorized to attend the Local Government Disaster Management Conference

CARRIED

6.2.4 Developing Northern Australia Conference 2017 – Cairns 19-20 June 2017

The 2017 Developing Northern Australia Conference is being held in Cairns on 19-20 June 2017. The 4 major focus areas of Conference are tourism, land and water, infrastructure solutions, and indigenous led northern development.

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That interested Councillors be authorized to attend the Developing Northern Australia Conference 2017 to be held in Cairns on 19-20 June 2017

CARRIED

6.2.5 Hope Vale Fibre Optic Project – Building Our Regions Funding

Hope Vale's internet and mobile services are incapable of servicing the needs of the Hope Vale community: residents, businesses and a wide-range of government service providers. There is no backhaul nor is there sufficient bandwidth in the aging radio network to meet current demand or to allow for any future expansion. The entire township is serviced by 32MBp/s radio network while a Smart Phone in any major city will deliver speeds in excess of 100MBp/s to a single user.

With a view to bridging this digital divide between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, Council has commissioned the required Feasibility Study for this project and has committed a financial contribution of \$300,000 toward this \$3,200,000 project and is seeking \$500,000 from the State of Queensland through the Building Our Regions Round 3 and \$2,400,000 through the Commonwealth's Building Better Regions Fund.

To address the telecommunication issues faced by Hope Vale – no ports, no backhaul, no bandwidth – the aging radio network needs to be decommissioned and replaced with approximately 25km of Optical Fibre cable, which will be installed from the outskirts of Hope Vale to the fibre connection site at Cooktown. Additional transmission and power equipment will be provided at the Hope Vale Exchange to support ADSL2+ services to Hope Vale. This fibre backhaul will also enable the mobile base station on Mt Piebald (3.5km from Hope Vale) to deliver optimal 4G mobile services. This represents the most effective solution, the most efficient solution and the most enduring solution for the needs of residents, businesses and government service providers.

The fibre addresses all bandwidth/backhaul issues now and into the future. The nature of the technology (speed of light transmission) allows for the

progressive expansion of bandwidth over time as new technologies and new digital demands develop. Fibre offers this scalability; existing infrastructure and NBN satellites do not.

The project can commence shortly after signing and completed in FY 2017-18 at a cost of \$3.2m. An upgrade to the existing radio network would cost and deliver an outcome that would be obsolete as soon as it became operational. In addition, Telstra will bear responsibility for all ongoing operational, maintenance and renewal costs associated with the Hope Vale Fibre Optic project infrastructure.

Fibre has the longest asset life of any telecoms infrastructure and, as mentioned above, the nature of the technology ensures the scalability of bandwidth to meet future needs.

Council has been requested to submit a detailed application for the \$500,000 Building Our Regions funding. A requirement of this application is a Council resolution committing to, and endorsing, the project

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council, acknowledging the requirements of the Building Our Regions Round 3 Detailed Application requirements resolves as follows:

- a) That Council endorses the Hope Vale Fibre Optic Project for submission to the Detailed Application stage of Round 3 of the Building Our Regions Fund;**
- b) That Council is committed to delivering the project;**
- c) That Council has secured Telstra's commitment to fund all ongoing maintenance, operational and renewal costs associated with the Hope Vale Fibre Project.**

CARRIED

6.2.6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAYOR'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

It was agreed that Council receive and note the reports from the Mayor and CEO dated 24 April 2017.

At this stage, Council dealt with Item 10 – Confidential Session

6.3 Finance Director's Report

The Finance Director's Report dated 21 April 2017 was discussed and was considered.

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That

- a) the Finance Director's Report for the period to 21 April 2017 be accepted and endorsed,
- b) Council write off a debt in an amount of \$1,100.42 applicable to Ailsa Woibo relating to 2014 Dept of Housing rental recovery,
- c) Keiran Mau, Regional Liaison Officer, Queensland Reconstruction Authority be invited to attend a future meeting, and
- d) A letter be forwarded to Hope Vale Congress requesting a financial contribution from the Hopevale Charitable Trust, equivalent to one (1) months depreciation charge of the Shire's water and sewerage infrastructure. The proposed funding is for the purpose of a contribution towards Council's significant costs for renewing the whole communities' water and sewerage assets.

CARRIED

6.4 Social Services Director's Report

The Social Services Director's Report for the meeting was considered.

6.5 Human Resource Manager's Report

The Human Resource Manager's Report dated 20 March 2017 was considered.

Moved by Deputy Mayor June Pearson

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution

That Council accept and approve the Social Services Director's Report and the Human Resource Manager's Report dated 20 March 2017.

CARRIED

6.6 Operations Manager's Report

The Operations Manager's Report dated 21 April 2017 was discussed and noted.

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council

- a) accept and approve the Operation Manager's Report dated 21 April 2017,
- b) endorse moving the proposed two bedroom house from Lot 1 Rose Street to a dual occupancy position at 431 Link Road, and
- c) endorse design Option 1 for the proposed cemetery vehicle and pedestrian entrance subject the middle cross being raised higher than the adjacent crosses.

CARRIED

7 VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Letter from the Australian Local Government Association dated 20 March 2017, inviting Councillors to the 2017 National General Assembly of Local Government to be held in Canberra from 18 to 21 June 2017.

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That interested Councillors be authorized to attend the 2017 National General Assembly of Local Government to be held in Canberra from 18 to 21 June 2017

CARRIED

- 8.2. Letter from Director General, Department of Infrastructure, Local Government, and Planning dated 22 March 2017, advising that the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning has made rules for the development assessment process in Queensland, which will take effect upon the Commencement of the Planning Act.

It was agreed that the letter be received and noted.

- 8.3 Letter from the Local Association of Queensland dated 27 March 2017 forwarding the combined 2015/16 Report to Members from LGM Queensland and Local Government Workcare

It was agreed that the letter be received and noted.

- 8.4 Letter from Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport, Mick de Brenni MP dated 13 March 2017 in relation to participation in government programs such Get Playing Plus and Sport and Recreation Planning Program.

It was agreed that the letter be received and noted.

- 8.5 Letter from the Office of Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services dated 16 March 2017, advising of the commencement of the project to undertake the rewrite of the Queensland State Disaster Management Plan.

It was agreed that the letter be received and noted.

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 **Photos – Matty Bowen Multi Purpose Centre**

It was agreed that Lillian Bowen be advised of Council's previous recognition of Matty Bowen's contribution to Hope Vale and that Council would be happy to receive a donation of a number of photos of Matty Bowen for hanging at a prominent position at the Centre.

9.2 **St John's Lutheran Church**

Cr Gibson advised the meeting of the status of the preparation of a Business Plan for the Church.

9.3 Mothers Day Function

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution

That the Mayor be authorised to approve sponsorship of a Mothers Day function on 14 May 2017.

CARRIED

9.4 2017 Hope Vale Pig Hunt Competition

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution

That Council approve the donation of a portable fridge/freezer for the 2017 Hope Vale Pig Hunt Competition.

CARRIED

10 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Moved by Cr Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to sections 275 (a), (e),(f) and (h) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to consider the following item:

- 10.1 Staffing issues
- 10.2 Proposed Leasing – Mechanical Workshop
- 10.3 Termination of Complaint – Australian Human Rights Commission
- 10.4 Occupancy of Wellbeing Centre - Apunipima

CARRIED

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution

That the meeting be re-opened to the public.

CARRIED

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Bruce Gibson

Resolution

That

- a) Apunipima and the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service be invited the May Council meeting to update Council on the draft Hope Vale Community Health Plan**
- b) Apunipima and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet be requested to confirm that the Council Wellbeing Centre is being used exclusively for the delivery of social and emotional wellbeing purposes.**

CARRIED

11 NEXT MEETING

The next General Meeting is proposed to be held on Wednesday 17 May 2017 commencing at 9am.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.35pm

.....
Cr G McLean
Mayor

.....
Steve Linnane
Chief Executive Officer