

**MINUTES OF  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2016**

MINUTES OF THE **Ordinary Council Meeting** OF THE NORFOLK ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL held at the Council Chambers on Wednesday, 21 September 2016 commencing at 2.00 pm.

**ATTENDANCE** Mayor Robin Adams  
Councillor John McCoy  
Councillor David Porter  
Councillor Lisle Snell

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** General Manager (Lotta Jackson)  
Group Manager – Services (Bruce Taylor)  
Group Manager – Commercial Hub (John Van Gaalen)  
Executive Assistant (Gaye Evans)

**WELCOME**

The Mayor welcomed Councillors, Officers and the community to the meeting.

**STATEMENT OF RESPECT**

*The Norfolk Island Regional Council promotes a climate of respect for all. We will endeavour to inspire in our community shared civic pride by valuing and protecting our unique culture and environment, both natural and built, for the current and future generations. We, the elected members and staff of the Norfolk Island Regional Council undertake to act with honesty and integrity, to conduct ourselves in a way that engenders trust and confidence in the decisions we make, and the actions we take on behalf of the Norfolk Island community. We acknowledge the Norfolk Island people, the traditional custodians of this Island.*

**APOLOGIES**

**49/16 Resolved:**

That the apology of Cr Rod Buffett be received and noted.

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

**50/16 Resolved:**

That Councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

NAME	TYPE	ITEM	DISCLOSURE
John McCoy	Less than Significant Non Pecuniary	GM 28/16	Rock Feed Source Committee – No direct commercial gain in the production of rock for crushing

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**51/16 Resolved** that:

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday, 17 August 2016 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday, 14 September 2016, as circulated, be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings of the meeting.

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**PUBLIC ACCESS**

Council was given a preview of part of the new NI Destination Campaign with short story videos

- Norfolk Blue Beef – with Robyn Menghetti
- Fishing on Norfolk Island – with David Bigg
- Lifestyle Choice – with Matty Zarb

The campaign will be released next month and includes five (5) Norfolk Island Stories, a back of bus campaign in Sydney, an extensive social media campaign and it is anticipated some TV coverage also. A launch date will be given shortly and an industry night will be hosted by NI Tourism to show the full campaign and explain how the island can be involved with driving the campaign.

**MAYORAL MINUTE**

**HAWAIKI FIBRE OPTIC SUBMARINE CABLE**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this Minute is for council to acknowledge the opportunity for Norfolk Island to gain the benefits of high speed broadband internet access and for the Commonwealth Government to create a commercial partnership to ensure connection to the Hawaiki submarine cable.

**52/16 Resolved:**

That in acknowledgement of the economic benefits to Norfolk Island of having access to fibre optic broadband internet connectivity, Council requests the General Manager as a matter of urgency –

- 1) To provide the Federal Minister Senator the Hon. Fiona Nash with detail of the benefits of fibre optic broadband internet connectivity versus satellite; and of the benefits that can flow to Norfolk from the cable connection that would not also be provided by the NBN Co satellite already available on Norfolk Island;
- 2) To request the Commonwealth Government to take a leading role in creating a commercial partnership between itself and the Norfolk Island Regional Council to connect to the Hawaiki submarine cable; and

(Robin Adams/John McCoy)

**53/16 Amendment**

The following amendment was proposed -

- (3) To explore and present options at the next Extraordinary Council Meeting for the Norfolk Island Regional Council to secure funding for a branching unit to be attached to the Hawaiki cable to allow Norfolk Island to be connected in the near future.

(John McCoy/Lisle Snell/)

**Motion as Amended Carried**

**BUSINESS OF MEETING**

**(ITEM: GM 22/16) NORFOLK ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Norfolk Island Regional Council Code of Meeting Practice.

**54/16 Resolved:**

That Council adopts the Norfolk Island Regional Council Code of Meeting Practice with the inclusion of the minor amendments discussed in this report as follows:

- (1) Include at the end of section A1.2 Briefings/Work-shops: Papers will be included where available and appropriate and provided that they are public documents;
- (2) Include a definition for 'Minister' in D.4 Definition: "*Minister*" *All powers expressed to be powers of a Minister of New South Wales except those under part 7 of Charter 13 and Division 2 Part 1 Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, delegates are Secretary, Deputy Secretary, SES in Local Government and Territories Division;*

- (3) Delete in section Clause B7.1 Closed Parts of Meetings (h) Information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on Community Land; and
- (4) That all Councillors be provided with a final copy of the Code of Meeting Practice once adopted.

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 23/16) NORFOLK ISLAND COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2026**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Norfolk Island Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026.

- (1) That Council adopts the Norfolk Island Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026 titled "*Our Plan for the Future*" contained within Attachment 2.
- (2) That Councillors be provided with a copy of the final Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026 once adopted.

(Dave Porter/Robin Adams)

**55/16 Amendment**

The following amendment was proposed to Resolution (1) -

- (1) THAT Council adopts the Norfolk Island Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026 titled "*Our Plan for the Future*" contained within Attachment 2 with the following amendments:

**“(a) Page 7, Clause 3, Our Plan for the Future Paragraph 3**

Amend the first sentence to read –

*Our Plan for the Future* acknowledges that Norfolk Island has unique needs, aspirations and challenges of a small remote island; and identifies and builds on current community strengths to ensure they are maximised.

**(b) Page 9 Clause 4.3 Planning in Partnerships**

Delete the five dot points and insert the following:

- Rebuild the economy
- Provide quality services
- Renovate infrastructure
- Strengthen the environment and community
- Provide strong, accountable Government

**(c) Page 11, Clause 5 – Norfolk Island today**

Rewrite paragraph 3 to read –

‘It is acknowledged that Polynesians colonized the Island around 1000 years ago, and that there were two British Penal Colonies on the Island between 1788 and

1854. It is also recognised that in 1856 the Pitcairn Islanders were relocated as a community to Norfolk Island where they have continued to evolve as a people in their new homeland. Over the years the Norfolk Islanders of Pitcairn descent have been joined by people from around the world drawn to the isolation, natural beauty of the island and the way of life and culture of the Pitcairn community; and today, Norfolk Island has a makeup of people from the United Kingdom and Tahiti (both through descent and directly), from Australia, New Zealand, other Pacific Islands, Russia, Scandinavia, the United States of America, Canada, Fiji and the Philippines.’

**(d) Page 19 Strategic Direction 01 Objective 2 Council’s Role**

Dot point 1 be moved to Strategic Direction 02 – Cultural expression is maintained and built heritage is protected.

**(e) Page 20 Indicators of Success**

Amend dot point 1 to read –

‘A Sustainable population study has been developed, implemented and monitored over the period of the plan’

**(f) Page 21 Strategic Direction 02 Council’s role**

**Dot point 3** - Amend to read ‘Continue to advocate for the teaching of Norfolk Studies and the Norfolk Island language under LOTE at the Norfolk Island Central School’

**Dot point 4** – Amend to read ‘Remain committed to supporting the objectives of the KAVHA Heritage Management Plan Report June 2015’

**Dot point 12** – Amend to read ‘Advocate for a Preamble to the Norfolk Island Act’, which is consistent with the final report of the Norfolk Island Advisory Council.

**(g) Indicators of Success Page 22 Dot point 3**

Amend to read – ‘Norfolk studies delivered and the Norfolk language taught under LOTE at the Norfolk Island Central School.’”

(Robin Adams/Lisle Snell)

**Motion as Amended Carried**

**56/16 Resolved:**

- (2) That Councillors be provided with a copy of the final Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026 once adopted.

(Dave Porter/Robin Adams)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 24/16) ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to be informed of the Advisory Committees overarching set-up.

**57/16 Resolved:**

That Council notes the information in this report when considering the adoption of Terms of References for Advisory Committees.

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 25/16) TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Tourism Advisory Committee; nominate Councillors for the Committee and for the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Tourism Advisory Committee.

**58/16 Resolved:**

- (1) That Council adopts the Terms of Reference – Tourism Advisory Committee;
- (2) That Council appoints the Mayor and Councillor Snell to be members of the Tourism Advisory Committee;
- (3) Council approves the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Tourism Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

(John McCoy/Lisle Snell)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 26/16) WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Waste Management Advisory Committee; nominate a Councillor for the Committee and for the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Waste Management Advisory Committee.

**59/16 Resolved:**

- (1) That Council adopts the Terms of Reference – Waste Management Advisory Committee;

- (2) That Council appoints the Mayor and Councillor McCoy to be members of the Waste Management Advisory Committee;
- (3) That Council approves the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Waste Management Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

(John McCoy/Dave Porter)

**60/16 Amendment**

The following amendment was proposed -

That the meeting time of the Committee as proposed in the Terms of Reference be amended from 3:00 pm to 4.00 pm.

(John McCoy/Dave Porter)

**Motion as Amended Carried**

**(ITEM: GM27/16) PUBLIC RESERVES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Public Reserves Advisory Committee; nominate a Councillor for the Committee and for the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Public Reserves Advisory Committee.

**61/16 Resolved:**

- (1) That Council adopts the Terms of Reference – Public Reserves Advisory Committee;
- (2) That Council appoints the Councillor McCoy and Councillor Snell to be members of the Public Reserves Advisory Committee;
- (3) That Council approves the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Public Reserves Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

(John McCoy/Dave Porter)

**62/16 Amendment**

The following amendment was proposed -

That the meeting time of the Committee as proposed in the Terms of Reference be amended to the first Tuesday of the month at 4pm.

(John McCoy/Lisle Snell)

**Motion as Amended Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 28/16) ROCK FEED SOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Rock Feed Source Advisory Committee; nominate a Councillor for the Committee and for the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Rock Feed Source Advisory Committee.

**63/16 Resolved:**

- (1) That Council adopts the Terms of Reference – Rock Feed Source Committee;
- (2) That Council appoints the Councillor McCoy and Councillor Porter to be members of the Rock Feed Source Advisory Committee;
- (3) That Council approves the General Manager to advertise for expressions of interest for membership of the Rock Feed Source Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

(John McCoy/Lisle Snell)

**64/16 Amendment**

The following amendment was proposed -

That the meeting time of the Committee as proposed in the Terms of Reference be amended from 2:00 pm to 4.00 pm; and

(John McCoy/Lisle Snell)

**Motion as Amended Carried**

**(ITEM: GM 29/16) NORFOLK ISLAND TOURISM MARKETING UPDATE**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information in relation to the Norfolk Island Tourism Marketing Program for the period July to December 2016.

**65/16 Resolved:**

That Council notes the extensive tourism marketing information provided in this Norfolk Island Tourism Marketing Program report.

(John McCoy/Dave Porter)

**Motion Carried**

**Executive Assistant left the Chamber at 3.00 pm**



**(ITEM: GC 01/16) GIFTS AND BENEFITS POLICY**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to present to Councillors the Gifts and Benefits Policy for review.

The acceptance of gifts or benefits has real and perceived opportunities for undermining integrity. The purpose of this policy is to clearly define the way in which the organisation will manage the offer of gifts and benefits.

**66/16 Resolved:**

That Council defers the Adoption of the Gifts and Benefits Policy until the October Ordinary Council Meeting

(Lisle Snell/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM NM BUFFETT 1/16) APPOINTMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**67/16 Resolved:**

That –

- (1) the Norfolk Island Regional Council appoints a Sustainable Energy Advisory Committee; and**
- (2) the terms of reference for the Sustainable Energy Advisory Committee are –**
  - a) Review past reports on Norfolk Island Electricity;**
  - b) Assess the oversupply of photovoltaic electricity;**
  - c) Assess the present demand;**
  - d) Assess future demand;**
  - e) Determine access to supply; and**
  - f) Make recommendations to the Norfolk Island Regional Council.**

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**(ITEM NM McCOY 4/16) TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE IN NORFOLK ISLAND**

**68/16 Resolved:**

**That to assist Council in its consideration of a proposal for fibre optic internet connectivity through the Hawaiki Submarine Cable System, as a matter of priority –**

- (1) A business plan for Norfolk Telecom be prepared detailing the potential benefits to Norfolk Island through connectivity to the Hawaiki submarine cable system;
- (2) Provide Council with a brief on the future commercial viability of Norfolk Telecom as a telecommunications provider; and
- (3) Provide Council with a brief on how the *Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth)* if extended to Norfolk Island would impact beneficially on the current telecommunication services provided on Norfolk Island.

(John McCoy/Dave Porter)

**Motion Carried**

**CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**69/16 Resolved:**

That Council move into closed Committee.

(David Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

*The doors were closed to the public and the meeting moved into Committee at 3.20 pm.*

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEM GM32/16 STAFF MATTER**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is for Council to be informed of the outcome of a staff matter.

**70/16 Resolved:**

That Council notes the information in this Report.

(David Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**71/16 Resolved:**

That the Council move out of closed Committee.

(David Porter/John McCoy)

The Mayor read out the Resolution from the closed session to the public.

**(ITEM: GM 30/16) DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS**

**SUMMARY:**

This report has been prepared to allow the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns lodged by 30 September 2016.

**72/16 Resolved:**

- (1) That the General Manager's Report "Disclosure of Interest Returns" be received and noted; and further
- (2) That Council notes the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns lodged by 30 September 2016.

(Dave Porter/John McCoy)

**Motion Carried**

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

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

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Councillor Robin Adams  
Mayor  
Dated: \_\_\_ October 2016